

'Sport Aid' runner reaches Rome

ROME (Agencies) — Pope John Paul on Monday blessed the fund-raising marathon of Sudanese runner Omar Khalifa when the athlete arrived in St. Peter's Square on the latest stage of his international run to raise money for African famine relief. Khalifa arrived in the square carrying an Olympic-style torch and followed by thousands of young people after completing his 10-kilometre run through Rome's historical centre. From Rome, Khalifa will visit Brussels, Paris, Warsaw, Budapest, Helsinki, Bonn, Amsterdam, Dublin and London before arriving at the United Nations in New York to complete his marathon. He has already run in Athens and Madrid. Reports from London said the organisers of the "Sport Aid" campaign have raised £1 million in private contributions.

Jordan Times

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WAJ clarifies cut in water charges

AMMAN (Petra) — Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) President Mohammad Saleh Keilani said Monday that the recent government decision to cut water charges by 20 per cent excludes the Jordan Valley area and benefits all citizens. However, he added, limited income people, whose normal daily consumption of water is half a cubic metre, will be benefited more. He noted that nearly 70 per cent of the people in Jordan consume half a cubic metre of water daily and they are the primary beneficiaries of the government's decision. The decision excluded residents of the Jordan Valley area because they are already paying 100 fils for each cubic metre of water irrespective of volume consumed while residents of other areas of Jordan pay more when their consumption increases.

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Holiday declared

AMMAN (Petra) — All government ministries and departments and public institutions will observe an official holiday on Sunday, May 25, on the occasion of Jordan's Independence Day, according to an official communiqué issued by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Monday.

Tbeishat cables thanks to Rifai

AMMAN (Petra) — The mayor of Irbid, Dr. Abdul Razzaq Tbeishat, on Monday sent a cable to Prime Minister Zaid Rifai thanking His Majesty King Hussein and the government for the decision to reopen Yarmouk University and to reschedule the examinations for next Saturday.

Meeting hears report on Greater Amman plan

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh on Monday presided over a meeting of the joint technical team of the Greater Amman development plan. The meeting discussed a summary prepared by the technical team on the economic and social framework and geographical problems facing construction, use of urban land, and accounting procedures.

Silwan residents protest encroachment

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab citizens of Silwan town in occupied Jerusalem have asked officials of the Israeli-run municipality to work towards ending land encroachment by Jewish settlers since 1974. The Jewish first closed the only main road leading to the town, adjacent to a Jewish cemetery built on land whose leasing period ended in the 1960s. In 1976, the Jews set up fake tombs on the right side of the road in an attempt to expand the existing cemetery. In 1985 the settlers tried to build a reinforced concrete wall at Al 'Ain school yard but the Arab inhabitants of the town foiled the attempt.

Clashes reported around Beirut camp

BEIRUT (R) — Clashes erupted between Shi'ite Amal and Palestinian fighters on Monday around a refugee camp near Beirut, security sources reported. They said urgent efforts were underway to stop the fighting near Bourj Al Barajneh camp which led to closure of many streets including the main road to Beirut airport. The security sources had no immediate reports on casualties.

Former Iraqi prime minister dies

BAGHDAD (R) — Former Iraqi Prime Minister Taher Yahya has died at his home town of Tikrit, north of Baghdad, a relative told Reuters on Monday. Mr. Yahya, 73, played a major role in the 1958 revolution in Iraq. Prime minister in the mid-1960s, he was removed from his post by the Arab Baath Socialist Party which led another revolution in July 1968.

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South Africa raids three neighbouring black states

Racist regime's action draws fierce condemnation

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — South Africa raided three frontline black states early Monday in an unprecedented show of force against what it alleged were bases of the African National Congress (ANC) liberation movement.

Air force jets, army helicopters and ground forces were used in the three-pronged thrust against targets in or near the capitals of Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana, according to eyewitness reports.

The South African air force and defence force said in separate statements that the targets were ANC operational centres and "terrorist" transit facilities. It was the first time South Africa had struck at Lusaka or Harare but last June its troops killed 12 people in a lightning strike against targets in Gaborone.

Apart from confirming the raids, defence and air force spokesmen gave scant details of the dawn strikes.

The attacks drew condemnation from around the world, including the U.S. and the Commonwealth group of nations.

The U.S. government voiced outrage and condemnation of the attacks and described them as a blow to peace efforts in the region.

Presidential spokesman Larry Speakes said there had been some progress recently in easing tensions between white-ruled South Africa and its neighbours. "We think that these actions (the raids) could very well be a major setback for that progress," Speakes said.

However, he said President Ronald Reagan's administration still opposes economic sanctions against South Africa, believing "it punishes the very people we are trying to help."

In Harare, four people suspected of involvement in the raid have been arrested, Prime Minister Robert Mugabe said.

South Africa attacked two targets in Harare, a house and an office building.

When Reuters correspondent Francis Mdlongwa visited the scene in Harare he saw that a large piece had been blown out of a Harare building where the ANC had offices and a house in the suburb of Ashdown Park had been destroyed.

Diplomatic sources in Harare told Reuters the house was once used by the ANC's chief representative in Zimbabwe, Joe Gqabi, who was killed there in 1981 by rwen Zimbabwe said were South African agents.

Eyewitnesses in Gaborone told Reuters one Botswana government worker was killed and another person was injured when heavily armed troops stormed a village 10 kilometres outside the capital.

Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda told a press conference two people, a Zambian and a refugee from Namibia (South West Africa), were killed in an air strike on a refugee camp outside Lusaka.

He said the raid was a "dastardly, cowardly action." Eight or 10 people had been rushed to hospital, he added.

The South African air force claimed the camp outside Lusaka was the ANC's operational centre and depot of information and

publicity.

The ANC said in Lusaka, where it has its headquarters, that it was evacuating its offices and had told children to stay away from a school for refugees near the camp.

Pretoria has repeatedly criticised black states for helping the ANC mount its guerrilla activities and threatened military retribution.

All three countries support the ANC but have regularly denied providing bases or other support.

The raids followed hours after South African police reported finding the largest arms cache in the country's history, including Soviet-made dynamite, plastic explosives and rocket-propelled grenades.

South African Airways cancelled flights to Zimbabwe and Botswana after the raids were announced "due to the uncertainty regarding the safety of passengers."

The post office said telephone contact between South Africa and Botswana had been cut.

Political analysts said the raids were bound to arouse major international reaction and could jeopardise the outcome of a Commonwealth peace mission currently in South Africa seeking to reconcile the aspirations of the black majority and the country's white rulers.

In London, the secretary-general of the Commonwealth, Shridath Ramphal, condemned the attacks as flagrant acts of war and called for economic sanctions against Pretoria.

He said it threatened Commonwealth efforts to find a peaceful settlement in South Africa.

Britain called the attacks "violations of the sovereignty of fellow Commonwealth countries" and said it was summoning Pretoria's charge d'affaires in London to the

Foreign Office to ask for an urgent explanation.

Mr. Ramphal said in a statement Pretoria had "declared war against peace in southern Africa."

British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said the attacks were a plain violation of the Commonwealth states' sovereignty.

Mr. Howe told parliament: "It is particularly deplorable that they should have taken place while the Commonwealth group of eminent persons were in South Africa, seeking to promote a dialogue which would lead to the ending of apartheid, in the context of a suspension of violence on all sides."

Britain helped establish the Commonwealth "eminent persons group" at the 49-nation organisation's biennial conference in the Bahamas last October.

In Cairo, Egypt and Benin called for the international community to take punitive action against the South African government for the raids.

The call was made in a joint statement issued after a meeting between Egypt's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali, and Benin Foreign Minister Frederic Aho.

In The Hague, the 12 nations of the European Community (EC) condemned South Africa for the attacks.

"In general, and this time also, we condemn the efforts to destabilise (the region) by the South African government," said a spokesman of the Dutch Foreign Ministry.

The Netherlands currently holds the chairmanship of the EC, and the spokesman said his comments were on behalf of the EC members.



BANQUET FOR SECURITY FORCES: His Majesty King Hussein on Monday hosted an Iftar banquet in honour of senior army and Public Security Department officers. The banquet was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister and Defence Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, and directors of Public Security, Civil Defence and Intelligence departments. The King joined his guests in Al Maghreb prayers (Petra photo)

Chernobyl radiation leak 'unlikely to affect Jordan'

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is unlikely to be affected by radiation resulting from the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear reactor in the Soviet Union, but the concerned authorities will continue to keep a very close watch on the situation, the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources announced Monday.

A ministry spokesman said that Jordan is separated from the Chernobyl area in the Soviet Union by natural geographic barriers, including mountains, plains, and seas, making the effect of radiation on Jordan only a remote possibility.

The accident at the nuclear reactor, which occurred towards the end of last month, the spokesman said, is totally different from the explosion of a nuclear bomb. He said that the accident resulted from a fault in the reactor itself which affected the whole structure, raising the temperatures inside the compound and leaking radiation which was carried across borders to other regions away from the area.

No unusual rise in atmosphere radiation

Studies conducted by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) have shown no unusual increase in radiation in the atmosphere in Jordan and reports submitted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna disclosed that no high radiation levels have been registered in any of the countries neighbouring the Soviet Union, the spokesman added.

Gonzalez begins talks in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, who led a successful campaign to keep his country in NATO less than 10 weeks ago, had talks on Monday with Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov, the official news agency TASS said.

Mr. Gonzalez, a Socialist, arrived on a four-day official visit during which he is also due to meet Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Official sources in Madrid said Mr. Gonzalez would urge the Soviet leadership to help reduce tension in Europe by toning down support for Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi.

The Spanish prime minister is the first European Community (EC) leader to visit Moscow since the U.S. air raids on Libya on April 15.

Other subjects on his agenda include Spanish-Soviet trade and the conflicts in Central America.

Mr. Gonzalez, 43, is also the first Western leader to meet Mr. Gorbachev since the April 26 accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station, which sent radioactive particles over most of Europe.

The disaster, and the Kremlin's handling of it, caused widespread concern in Western Europe.

Mr. Gonzalez has been given low-key but relatively favourable coverage in the Soviet state media, despite his active role in the March 13 referendum on Spanish membership of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

Heart recipient leaves hospital

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ahmad Abu Shakra, who suffered congestive cardiomyopathy and underwent a successful heart transplant surgery on April 16, was discharged from the King Hussein Medical Centre on Monday.

The surgery performed on Mr. Abu Shakra was the second heart transplant in Jordan and the third in the Middle East. Both heart transplants in the Kingdom were carried out by a team of doctors headed by the King Hussein Medical centre director, Major-General Daoud Hanania.

Mr. Abu Shakra, a 24-year-old mechanical engineer, was suffering from congestive cardiomyopathy — a heart muscle disease which has no discovered medical treatment and requires the patient to be kept on drugs. The transplanted heart was taken from 15-year-old Rajai Khader Hijazeen.

Prior to his discharge from the centre on Monday, Mr. Abu Shakra told the military magazine Al Aqsa: "I feel great as I leave the centre and I thank all the medical doctors and staff who supervised my recovery."

Reagan task to reverse Saudi arms vote is 'very difficult'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan is making some progress in trying to salvage a Saudi arms sale rejected by Congress, but his task remains "very difficult," White House Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes said on Monday.

Mr. Reagan, as part of his campaign to win support for the sale, was to have conferred at the White House on Monday with nine Jewish leaders. The meeting was cancelled, however, because of the death on Saturday of Yehuda Helman, executive vice chairman of the Conference of Presidents of

Major American Jewish Organisations, an umbrella group for 40 of the largest Jewish organisations.

By overwhelming margins, both the House of Representatives and the Senate voted against Mr. Reagan's proposed \$354 million sale of missiles, including shoulder-fired Stinger anti-aircraft weapons, to Saudi Arabia.

Speakes said it was highly likely that Mr. Reagan would veto the congressional resolution on Tuesday.

He added, however, the veto might be at late as Wednesday.

Bulgarian and General foodstuffs exhibition.

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IS EXTENDED TILL THURSDAY 22nd 1986 UNTIL 12.00 Pm

J.T. ANNOUNCEMENT

AS OF Friday, May 23, 1986, the Jordan Times' offices will be relocated in Al Ra'i building. Also starting on that date, our new telephone numbers will be the same as those of our sister newspaper: 667171-6 and 670141-4. Current telephone numbers 666265 and 666320 will no longer be in use after May 23, 1986.

Businessmen, industrialists praise decision to reduce rates for water, electricity

AMMAN (Petra) — The government's recent decision to cut the rates of electricity and water by 20 per cent has been favourably received by Jordanian businessmen, industrialists and economists and the move was described as a "positive step" towards reviving the Jordanian economy.

Commenting on the government's decision, which will take effect as of June 1, the director general of the Tourist Investments Corporation and Chairman of the Jordanian Hotels Association, Mr. Zuhair Ajlouni said the new decision will help revive the hotel industry in particular and the tourism sector in general.

Boost for tourism

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Ajlouni said the decision will have great impact on internal and external tourism and will help, in the long run, to attract larger numbers of tourists to Jordan. The reduction of electricity and water rates will also contribute towards covering the expenses of hotels and tourist resthouses as in the past higher charges for these services constituted a real burden on hotels and tourist resthouses, Mr. Ajlouni continued.

He added that the final beneficiary from the government's decision will be the tourist himself, because the decision in effect means that the reduction of water and electricity costs will eventually be passed on to the tourists.

through a reduction of prices at these places.

Chairman of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce Hamdi Tabba'a described the recent government decision as a "step on the path towards reviving the Jordanian economy and supporting and encouraging local industry as well as reducing the cost of living for members of the public."

He said that the reduction in water and electricity prices will lead to a reduction in production costs for industry and will consequently help Jordanian exports to compete with foreign products. The commercial sector, he added, will be directly affected by the decision because it is the measure that reflects the activities of the various economic sectors.

Mr. Issam Bdeir, the chairman of the Amman Chamber of Industry, said the government's decision was favourably received by members of the public because it will reduce the prices of their domestic electricity and water bills.

Economists cable Rifai

In their cables to Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, economists expressed their thanks and appreciation to the government and said that the reduction of prices for basic services is an active step to revive the Jordanian economy and to develop it.

Municipality organises events to mark Independence Day

AMMAN (Petra) — As part of the activities to mark Jordan's Independence Day, which falls on May 25, three public gardens will be officially opened on the eve of the anniversary at Sports City, Marka and Nasr. The opening of these three gardens to the public is part of Amman Municipality's celebrations to mark this occasion.

Other activities organised by Amman Municipality include holding an exhibition of plastic art at the Philadelphia Hotel and a photographic exhibition showing the development of Amman and pictures of the present day and old city.

The municipality, in cooperation with the Department of Arts and Culture, will also hold an exhibition of handicrafts along the pavement of the new Hashimi Street in front of the Philadelphia Hotel near the Roman amphitheatre in downtown Amman.

In-kind contributions will also be distributed by the municipality

to the families of deceased labourers who worked for Amman Municipality and to senior, retired staff who have served the municipality. Homes for the aged, orphans and disabled will also receive contributions from the municipality.

Photographs and portraits of His Majesty King Hussein will be hung at the municipality's premises and in other public places which have been set aside for this purpose. Jordanian flags and 80 banners and notices will be flown in various parts of Amman and posters and banners will be posted on billboards along Independence Street which will also be lit during the day.

The municipality has also organised a motorcade of cars, decorated with flowers, which will pass through the streets of Amman, on Sunday, from the centre of downtown to Independence Street.



Sixth graders at the American Community School all dressed up in sailor suits for their production of HMS Pinafore

ACS pupils present a rousing performance of HMS Pinafore

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A cheerful and enthusiastic audience warmly applauded sixth graders at the American Community School (ACS) in Amman on Saturday evening when they presented a successful performance of HMS Pinafore, a two-act operetta by Gilbert and Sullivan.

The abridged version of HMS Pinafore was performed by 29 lively youngsters from the school. The sixth graders, who presented their operetta at the ACS gymnasium, were coached and directed by their music teacher, Mrs. Nuhad Katbeh Eid, and their class teachers, Mrs. Joyce Kasim and Mrs. Naomi Fusk.

The students told the story of Ralph Rackstraw (Hani El Kukhun), a common sailor who falls in love with his captain's daughter, Josephine (Soomi Rhee). Sir Joseph Porter (Garrett Pendleton-Veeder), of the Royal Navy, is also seeking the hand of Josephine and she visits the ship for an interview with her and her father. The captain gives his daughter's hand to Sir Joseph but as act one closes, Ralph and Josephine agree to steal away that very night to get married.

In the mean time, Sir Joseph informs the captain that Josephine does not take to kindly to his wooing and Dick Deadeye (Andrew

Swift), a sailor, tells the captain of Ralph and Josephine's intended elopement. The captain and Dick lie in wait and surprise the eloping couple and Ralph is taken away to a dungeon.

Soon Buttercup (Ellen Hill), a peddler woman arrives on the scene and explains that "Ralph is really the captain and the captain is really Ralph." The operetta ends with a rousing chorus as three couples prepare for their weddings on the morrow; Ralph and Josephine, Sir Joseph and his cousin Hebe (Paula Zaine) and Captain Corcoran (Ibrahim Abu-Sway) and Buttercup.

The characters and the 13 member chorus of sailors stood up well to the test of show business and many — such as Buttercup, the captain, Sir Joseph and Josephine — showed dramatic and musical talents.

Mrs. Eid, who has been teaching music at the ACS for the past ten years, will be leaving Jordan soon to settle in the U.S. Mrs. Eid says: "The show itself was challenging and demanding and the sixth graders have put in their efforts to make this show a success."

Besides the cast, other factors prompting the success of Saturday's show were the stage sets and the technical effects. The simple set comprised a cyclorama of a sky with willows, long binoculars, a raised white platform, ropes and anchors.

Ministry plans to spend JD 81.377m on higher education in next 5 years

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Higher Education plans to spend JD 81.377 million over the coming five years to develop higher education in the Kingdom. The ministry's 1986/90 development plan provides for spending JD 23.48 million on projects at the University of Jordan, JD 8.59 million on Yarmouk University and JD 29 million on Mu'ta University.

According to the plan, the University of Jordan will expand the university's hospital by setting up medical centres at a cost of JD 10.6 million and will complete current projects at the university at a cost of JD 4.6 million. Under the plan the university will also enlarge the law school at a cost of JD 100,000, will build a higher studies facility at a cost of JD 1 million and will purchase equipment for the faculty of science at a cost of JD 330,000. Other projects at the same university are for enlarging the faculty of agriculture, building annexes to the engineering department and purchasing equipment for laboratories.

Yarmouk

The total expenditure on Yarmouk University's projects will amount to JD 8.59 million, according to the plan. This will be spent on building a housing project for staff, sports facilities, a Hebrew studies centre, a centre for training instructors on rehabilitation and on purchasing equipment for the faculties of dentistry, pharmacy and arts, among other projects.

Ma'ta University

At Ma'ta University, the ministry plans to invest more than JD 29 million to carry out 17 projects. These include building premises for the registration and admissions department, the faculties and departments of art, engineering, sciences, business and economy, the central library and a computer centre in addition to housing units, a cafeteria for students and civil works and sports grounds.

According to the plan, the ministry intends to spend nearly JD 150,000 each year on scientific research into higher studies in Jordan, the condition of different educational institutions in the Kingdom, the status of the community colleges, student guidance

services and other related schemes.

Libraries

Nearly JD 240,000 will be spent on improving the libraries of 12 government-run community colleges in Jordan. Equipment and facilities for the libraries include books, publications and photocopying machines. JD 120,000 will be spent in 1986 and a similar sum in 1987 under the plan. Also included in the plan is the development of the ministry's library to up date its books and references. This will cost JD 60,000.

Data bank

Furthermore, the plan envisages setting up a data bank at a cost of JD 222,000 which will be used for storing information needed by planners and the ministry's technical, administrative and financial sections.

According to the ministry's plan, a community college will be established in Ma'an, southern Jordan, to accommodate 300 students. This college is estimated to cost JD 750,000. The new college will offer courses in engineering, commerce, and paramedical sciences.

Every child needs protection against killer diseases, new UNICEF director says

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Simplicity and a realistic down-to-earth approach towards anything and everything in life appear to be the hallmark of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and a few minutes with Richard Reid, the new regional director of UNICEF in its Amman office, would only exemplify the belief.

At the same time, tough and persistent efforts at getting the message of UNICEF forcefully across to the people are also part of the organisation's strategy to canvass support for its campaign to protect the world's children against major killer diseases.

"We have to shock the world and electricity people into realising that the child is innocent from killer diseases until proper measures are taken to protect them," says Mr. Reid. "We have to expose the reality and prod the people into helping themselves to protect their future generations."

Citing the example of how a British television cameraman managed to "wake the world into the plight of 'Ethiopia' with an eight-minute film on the famine-hit country, Mr. Reid further argues that "awareness of the threat as well as means to thwart the threat is the best approach to spreading the UNICEF message of child protection."

How would UNICEF go about doing it? "Through the media where a simple written sentence is more effective than a thousand leaflets," he says. Precisely the same appeal was raised by Mr. Victor Sola-Sala, Mr. Reid's predecessor in Amman as UNICEF regional director for the Middle East and North Africa, in an interview with the Jordan Times before his departure from Jordan.

Joint responsibility

Elaborating on this theme that it is as much as responsibility of the parents as it is of the nation to ensure that their children are protected and enjoy a normal life, Mr. Reid said: "It is totally unfair to ignore or sidestep the threats that face today's children since the inherent dangers will undermine



Richard Reid

the future of their nation tomorrow."

He supports his argument by pointing out that 80 per cent of human brain cells develop during the first two years after birth and diseases and malnutrition could seriously impair their full potential.

"In most cases, those who suffer serious illnesses or malnutrition in their infancy will be able to offer only 35 to 40 per cent of their normal intelligence potential," according to Mr. Reid. "Obviously, it would mean a serious setback to any country, particularly the developing nations which need enhanced power to cope with the increasingly adverse international climate."

Therefore, as one can see, the UNICEF mission is not simply humanitarian," Mr. Reid, 51, said.

Mr. Reid, from San Fernando, California, who has been serving UNICEF for the past seven years, stressed the role of leadership at every level in the campaign to protect children. In the case of Jordan, he pointed out, His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and the government have signed a "declaration of intent" to involve the nation in UNICEF's drive for "immunisation for all by the year 1990" and initiated the nationwide drive to vaccinate children under two against the six major childkillers. The infant mortality rate in the past two years and an intensified health campaign is under way in the Kingdom.

Measles

Measles is of grave concern to

UNICEF, Mr. Reid said. "It can really destroy or stunt a child's growth by causing irreparable damage," he noted. In Jordan, he said, only 65 per cent of the Kingdom's children are protected against the deadly disease. However, he continued, "since Jordan is a socially well-organised country, we do not think it is a major problem to hit the 100 per cent mark."

Mr. Reid cites as an example a successful UNICEF programme in Turkey where he served the U.N. agency as regional representative. "On Sept. 11, 1985, more than 1,800,000 children were vaccinated against major killer diseases. The effort behind the single day event involved over 200,000 volunteers of whom only 10 per cent were health workers, 220,000 primary school teachers, 54,000 religious leaders and 45,000 vaccination centres of which 1,000 were set up in mosques."

The organisational part of the campaign took more than three months and "foremost of all the immunisation rate was raised to 87 per cent from a mere 20 per cent six months before the day of massive inoculation," he said.

Asked whether such a programme was feasible in Jordan, Mr. Reid said: "Well, I just arrived here... and it will take some time before I could answer that."

Health services in Jordan

However, he had high praise for health services in Jordan. "I would put Jordan somewhere in the top of the region's countries in affairs of health," he said.

Although he joined UNICEF only seven years ago, Mr. Reid has a total of 22 years of experience in the field of health services on the international scene as he has served several international health organisations in various capacities in Nigeria, Uganda, Morocco and Zaire. His wife also works for UNICEF in Rwanda, central Africa.

Discussing his first impressions of Jordan, Mr. Reid said: "Well, it is a clean, well-organised country," he said. "I think I already like it here and will enjoy working from my base here."

Higher committee sets the stages at Jerash for fifth festival of culture, arts on July 9

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Posters advertising the fifth Jerash festival of culture and arts have officially been distributed throughout the Kingdom, heralding the forthcoming cultural extravaganza scheduled to open on July 9 under the patronage of Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor.

The colour poster, depicting some of the festival's dance, music, poetry and folkloric activities, was designed by Publigráficas, a local advertising company, with photographs taken by Fakhri Milkawi.

The 10-day event will feature artistic, cultural and dramatic presentations from numerous local, Arab and international troupes and will offer both Jordanians and foreigners a chance to see some of the world's best performing arts.

The festival has become a landmark in Jordan's cultural life. The idea for the event was initiated by Queen Noor in 1979 and ever since the Queen has been closely supervising the fiesta through chairing the Higher National Committee for the Jerash Festival.

Dr. Mazen Al Armouti, who was director of the festival from 1980 to 1985, resigned from this year's task and Under Secretary at the Ministry of Information Michael Hamameh replaced him as the festival's director.

The committee, which has held several meetings since December, has finalised its decisions regarding the festival's programmes, which usually include activities such as theatre, music and songs, folkloric dances, poetry recitals, fashion parades, and exhibitions of books, local handicrafts and paintings.

Soon, the committee will be holding a meeting to decide on the entry fees as well as the price of tickets for the shows and performances.

The fourth festival presented 88 local, Arab and international cultural and artistic troupes who staged a total of 257 shows and events attracting more than 120,000 spectators and increasing the festival's income by 30 per cent compared with the previous festival.

This year's event will inject more life into the Greco-Roman city of Jerash as a special path is being built to link the new city of Jerash with the old. According to Mr. Hamameh, who was speaking to Radio Jordan's programme "Jordan Weekly," citizens living in new Jerash will be given the chance to demonstrate their local products and handicrafts since audiences attending the festival will have easy access to move from the old to the new city. "We thought that citizens of Jerash should be allowed to benefit from the festival by introducing their products to the festival's visitors," he told the programme.

This year's festival will run for ten days. The 1985 festival stretched over two weeks. Commenting on the shorter festival period, Mr. Hamameh said that it will give the committee the chance to assess the 1986 festival in order to pave the way for launching a longer event with more diversified programmes in 1987.

TCC studies off-peak rates for international telephone calls

Special charges on long distance calls expected to be applied early next year. Hussein announces

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Special rates for international telephone calls are expected to come into force in Jordan during the first quarter of 1987, Minister of Communications Muhieddine Al Hussein said Monday.



Muhieddine Al Hussein

Mr. Hussein, who is also chairman of the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) board of directors, said that the TCC is currently conducting a feasibility study on the impact of introducing special rates for long distance telephone calls.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Hussein explained that the TCC study will be completed in the coming four months after which the corporation's board will debate the study and recommend it to the Prime Ministry.

If it is accepted by the Prime Ministry, a special order will be issued by the prime minister putting the revised rates for international phone calls into effect.

Mr. Hussein emphasised that the study will determine the special rates for long distance calls, although he expects the prices to be on an equal footing with other rates adopted by other world countries for international calls.

These rates could mean that a 50 per cent discount will be applied to international phone calls made during the night or over the weekend as well as on official public holidays.

Public demand

The TCC's study appears to come in response to rising public demand over the past three years regarding the issue of the high rates charged to TCC subscribers for international phone calls.

Other newspaper reports, editorials and columns criticised the TCC for failing to introduce cheaper rates for long distance phone calls and suggested that lower prices for international calls made over the weekend or at night could be a solution to the high rates subscribers have to make for long distance calls.

Other reports suggested if rates for international telephone calls were lowered, the public would be encouraged to make more phone calls, thereby increasing the TCC's profits, which eventually would allow the corporation to expand its telecommunications services at a faster rate.

"The increase in TCC's profits will offer it with more power to boost its services and to maintain an equal level with international developments in the telecommunications sector, which is developing at lightning speed," Mr. Hussein said.

Charges for local calls

In another development, a large number of citizens have recently aired their dissatisfaction over the large amounts they had to pay for 1985 - February 1986 local telephone calls, saying that they were entitled to a total of 1,000 free-of-charge local telephone calls.

The minister explained that in the past, TCC allowed its subscribers to carry out 1,000 free-of-charge local phone calls no matter how long each call was.

However, on Jan. 1, 1984, a new order was issued stipulating that each of the 1,000 free-of-charge phone calls should not exceed six minutes. "Each minute after the allowed six minutes will be automatically placed on the subscribers telephone bill," Mr. Hussein said.

The minister stressed that the TCC was willing to review any complaints made by the public over "the slightest dissatisfaction."

Disconnections

In another related TCC matter, the minister said that the corporation has managed to collect JD 1 million from a number of telephone subscribers whose telephone lines were disconnected on May 3.

The recent disconnection of telephone lines affected almost 6,114 TCC subscribers and the total amount owed to the corporation was JD 2,800,000.

The disconnections in May followed February disconnections of more than 30,000 telephone lines and TCC sources claimed that the total amount of money owed to the corporation was JD 6 million.

Public dissatisfaction

Both sets of disconnections

were criticised in the local media. Many reports said that the public were dissatisfied with the way TCC dealt with its subscribers and the manner in which the corporation handled the settlement of bills.

The minister said: "I can not claim that our money collection system is free of mistakes. But we constantly review and evaluate each collection process in order to avoid a lot of dissatisfaction and to upgrade our services."

Mr. Hussein also promised that the TCC will discontinue what he called "the mass disconnection of telephone lines." He explained that in future each subscriber who fails to settle his account on time will be given several written notices and one verbal notice before his telephone line is disconnected.

"We shall follow up the issue of the settlement of bills, until the money is collected without harming the subscriber," he added.

Quarterly bills

In a bid to upgrade the settling of subscribers' bills, the TCC will soon start issuing quarterly debit notes, in which it will list the amount due for each of the three months.

The TCC also has plans to computerise all its money collection centres which will also be linked to the main financial department at the TCC headquarters, the minister continued.

In response to a question on why the 1986 January and February telephone bills reached subscribers as late as May, Mr. Hussein said: "Some technical problems at the TCC hindered the delivery of the bills on a monthly basis." He did not elaborate on the failures.

OLYMPIC'S GREECE



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Israel's uprooting of Palestinians; step two, torture

The following is the second part of an article on the Israeli policy of evacuating the occupied Arab territories of its Palestinian population. The writer, Dr. Jan Abu Shakra, is a Jerusalem-based sociologist affiliated with the Arab studies society and author of a book entitled *Sealer Violence in the Occupied Territories: 1980-1984*. This article is reprinted from the *Link* magazine which is published by the New York-based Americans for Middle East Understanding, Inc. The remaining parts of the article will appear in the Jordan Times during the coming week. Part one appeared on Monday's issue of the Jordan Times.

Step Two: Torture and terror

I am sitting in the cramped courtroom of the Military Compound in Ramallah, waiting for the opportunity to see my friend scheduled to be brought from his detention in Hebron Prison for a hearing. Neither I, his family nor his lawyer will be able to speak with him, as he is still being held under interrogation. "Legally," according to military law in the occupied territories, he can be held incommunicado for eighteen days, and with the approval of the prison authority, an additional 60 days, and more. My friend doesn't appear. His interrogators cite "technical reasons," and set another date.

My unfulfilled vigil passes through a parade of tens of young people, most of them 15 or 16 years old, all born after the occupation. They are joined by one Palestinian farmer, 60 or older. Singly or in groups, they are escorted into the courtroom to face charges. The prosecutor is a military officer, reading from a file of "evidence" against the youthful offenders. Their judge, also a military man, is flanked by two colleagues who utter not a word throughout the entire proceedings. The court employees — prosecutor, judges, clerks, translator, guards — are subordinate in rank to the Regional Military Commander who oversees legislation, arrests, trials and sentencing.

There's no democratic separation of powers here, no pretense of judicial neutrality or due process. All the actors know their parts well, although now and then the judge has to prompt the prosecutor to say the right thing for the record. "Security" needs, as defined by the military commanders, replace the scales of justice. Current military and political policy determine verdicts and sentences. There is no system of precedents, no extenuating circumstances, no humanitarian considerations.

The accused know their parts as well. They are guilty, from the moment that a soldier or policeman decided sufficient "suspicion" of wrongdoing existed. Had brought them into detention. Most often they are charged with some version of disturbing the peace (stone-throwing, demonstrations) or membership in a

"hostile organisation." Statistically more than 95 per cent will be convicted, usually on the basis of their own or someone else's "confession." Every year, more than 5,000 youth pass through the courts, the majority serving less than a year for their alleged "offenses against Israeli security."

There are few surprises in the courts, no anguished cries of grief, no unruly defendants or families. Most of the accused seem decidedly uninterested in the "judicial proceedings," directing their attention more to the benches, searching furtively, occasionally in vain, for family and friends. Mothers and fathers dressed in their finest dresses and suits await a glimpse of their son or daughter whom they may not have seen for days or even months. They exchange warm and knowing glances as the military men carry on their ritual.

My initial response to this scene is that of a mother, weeping inwardly for these young troops who carry the weight of the national struggle. Some look frightened, out of place, longing to be home. Others appear brave, almost heroic — they have undoubtedly been through all this before.

But quickly, I'm reminded of the many young people I've met, in villages and refugee camps, following their release from detention without charge or imprisonment on "security offenses." I recall their uplifted spirits, the pride that they did not break under torture, the strength and determination they gained from their comrades. They had passed the test and earned the badge — representative of the people, one of the steadfast.

My thoughts then pass to the court employees, many religious men, their army fatigues joined with skullcaps, and perhaps Uzis slung over their shoulders. How, I wonder, do they survive this tragedy, day in and day out? Can they actually believe that this charade serves some higher value, some national purpose?

Now and then a defendant appears in the courtroom with unexplained hemorrhages, broken bones or discolored nose. Doesn't this shake the court's confidence in the validity of alleged "confessions"?



Ameerah Muhammad Abdel Rahim, whose husband was shot by border police on October 7, 1985, stands in front of her destroyed home. She now lives with her parents.

Apparently not. Rarely is the admissibility of a confession rejected by the judges. And a confession by the defendant, or someone else, is all that is necessary for a conviction.

Accounts of torture in Israeli prisons and detention centres abound. Many Palestinians have signed affidavits after their release. Occasionally, their testimony is entered in the court protocols. Reports from lawyers defending Palestinian clients indicate that incidents and severity of such treatment are recently on the increase.

Outside of prison, Israelis have coined the term *terro* for the systematic harassment and humiliation of the occupied population by army troops and border police. It includes: mass roundups; violent and arbitrary home searches; and the use of humiliating and degrading practices, like forcing men to stand for long periods on one leg with their hands in the air, orders to dance and sing, to bray like a donkey, to walk on all fours, and even to kiss a donkey's ass.

Residents may be asked to slap each other, insult their family members, perform degrading acts, even write their identification card numbers on each other's arms in memory of the Jews in German concentration camps. They may be cursed, spat on, or beaten if they refuse.

Dr. Israel Shabak, a Bergen-Belsen concentration camp survivor and former President of the Israeli League of Human and Civil Rights, has concluded that, since 1968, Israeli Jewish society, as well as some of the other diaspora Jewish society, particularly in America, is undergoing what he calls a process of nazification.

Hannah Arndt coined the term "the banality of evil" when covering the trial of Adolph Eichmann in Jerusalem. Her point was that Eichmann, and others like him, were not a species apart. Neither clinical sadists nor deranged murderers, they simply carried out their tasks, ordering the torture and murder of thousands, all by pushing papers, directing others, and following bureaucratic routine.

Her portrayal helps us to understand, if not condone, such horrors. But torture and degrading humiliations, face to face — how is it possible?

The "empty land" mythology holds the key, inasmuch as it rests on a good versus evil compartmentalization that must extend to all aspects of the situation: They are primitive, we are civilized; they ravaged the land by war, we are making the desert bloom; they are not a people, we are; they have no right to the land, no history, no culture; we are chosen by God to inherit this land of our forefathers; Palestine and Palestinians don't exist, but no part of the Land of Israel can be foreign to the Jewish people.

Apartment, or forced separation between the two peoples, is, as Fanon observed, simply a physical extension of this worldview. It is a worldview that depends on the distortion and denial of a whole people's existence, identity and rights.

This compartmentalization is reinforced and solidified in the daily practice of the occupation: to control the population and to suppress their aspiration for independence. As Paulo Freire reflects:

If the humanization of the oppressed signifies subversion, so also does their freedom; hence the necessity for constant control. And the more the oppressors control the oppressed, the more they change them into apparently inanimate "things." This tendency of the oppressor consciousness to

"inanimate" everything and everyone it encounters ... unquestionably corresponds with a tendency to sadism.

The process by which Israelis attempt to "in-animate" the Palestinians is increasingly evident in Israeli rhetoric and practice. One step removed from humanity, they become Menachem Begin's "two-legged beasts," and then (former Chief of Staff) Raphael Eitan's "drugged cockroaches in a bottle." For years, Israeli Arabists have referred to them as "the growing cancer," and to their offspring as the "time bomb" or the "demographic threat." Dropping a few vacuum bombs on a refugee camp in Lebanon is justified as wiping out a "terrorist nest." Shooting to death a six-year-old child in the street can be rationalized as "neutralizing a security threat."

To the extent that Palestinians do not give way to self-deprecation, cynicism and direction of petty violence against their own people, their humanity and identity as a people is actually strengthened through their refusal to submit and their will to stand proud in the face of such treatment. They will suffer physically, but their spirit will triumph.

Movement in the Ogaden

THE three-day round of discussions between the Horn of Africa's traditional rivals Somalia and Ethiopia, the first in a decade, has ended inconclusively in Addis Ababa. Despite the lack of results, however, the very fact that the talks at foreign ministers' level took place at all, and that there will be a follow-up round in Mogadishu, is sufficient indication that the two countries' four-month-old process of rapprochement is going on well. It was only in January that Somali President Muhammad Siad Barre and his Ethiopian counterpart, Col. Mengistu Haile-Mariam, met in Djibouti during a summit of the regional body Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Desertification (IGADD). The event became the first Somali-Ethiopian summit since 1977 when the two countries went to war for a second time over the disputed Ogaden region.

The Ogaden, or Western Somalia, as the Somalis call it, has for a century now been at the heart of the two nations' animosities that go back several hundred years. The region was Somali territory until the late 19th century when Great Britain suddenly transferred it to what was then Abyssinia to strike a deal over Sudan. The arid, sparsely populated region is to this day inhabited by ethnic Somalis.

The dispute is a bitter colonial legacy that Somalia will have to learn to live with and Mogadishu has of late adopted a very conciliatory attitude towards it. At the opening of the Addis Ababa talks earlier this month, Somali Foreign Minister Abdurrahman Jama Barre noted in his speech that "our (two) peoples have for centuries experienced great sufferings and hardships, brought about by protracted armed conflict, foreign intervention, mutual suspicion and mistrust. In the process, resources which could have been more appropriately utilized for development purposes have been diverted elsewhere." This is indeed a tragedy for a region so regularly visited by drought and famine as the Horn of Africa.

The fact that Somalia and Ethiopia have got down to negotiations also means that they have finally realised the futility of war as a means of resolving their disputes. "It is true there are problems between our two countries," President Barre remarked during a recent interview, "but it is absurd to fight." This spirit is certainly to be welcomed — Arab News, Jeddah.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Government keen to help people

THE government of Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai has been keen on taking measures designed to lower the cost of living for citizens and at the same time helping the private sector to contribute effectively towards bolstering the national economy. The cabinet's decision to cut down on prices of water and electricity is part of a long series of government measures in this respect. No doubt the treasury will be shouldering an additional burden, JD 10 million during 1986, increasing over the coming years, but this subsidy is bound to benefit the country as a whole. The national economy will be boosted and the various industries and the agricultural sector will be producing more and more for export, bringing in more revenue for the nation. With the recent decision the government has thus proved really concerned with the well being of the citizens and the future of the national economy. The more the government works for the benefit of the country in cooperation with the various sectors, the more our nation will thrive and progress.

Al Dustour: Boosting economy

THE reduction of water and electric power tariffs is decided on by the cabinet are designed to alleviate the citizens' burdens and also support the various economic sectors. No doubt the treasury which has been receiving less and less Arab financial help, will be affected but the benefits will be greater for the nation. Such a decision will boost the economy and breathe more life into the local industries, enabling them to acquire water and power at a cheaper rate. We have great hope that the reduction of the prices of these two essential elements will help the economic sector and the various businesses and industries to improve the quality of their product and compete with the foreign products abroad. This wise decision will not only benefit the economic sector and the tourism but would also bring in added bonus to the low-income families. Let us hope that Jordan will achieve further progress and development and achieve its people's aspirations in every field.

Sawt Al Shaab: Government's wise decision.

CUTTING down on the price of electricity and water is bound to lower the cost of living, thus benefiting the consumers, but laying another burden for the treasury which will be subsidising these two essential elements. The aim of reducing the tariffs is to revive the economic activities in the country, particularly industry and agriculture. A lower price of water and electricity means a cheaper cost of production which eventually leads to an increase in production and marketing of Jordanian goods here and abroad. More exports mean increasing the national revenues and raising the country's productive capacity in general. The cabinet decision on this issue is part of a long series of measures intended to boost the national economy and support the private sector's endeavours. The JD 10 million subsidy to be borne by the government will be translated into greater benefits for the country as a whole.

Islamic law becomes key issue for Sudanese

By Hamza Hendawi

Reuter

KHARTOUM — Sudan's Islamic Sharia laws have become the country's hottest political issue, posing Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi's fledgling democratic government a serious dilemma over whether to keep, repeal or amend them.

Islamic laws, derived from the sayings of the Prophet Muhammad and the Muslim holy book, The Koran, were introduced in September 1983 by now-ousted President Jaafar Numeiri, who said they would put mainly-Muslim Sudan on the path to prosperity.

But the Sharia code, involving amputation of hands for theft and hanging for heresy, fuelled anti-government insurgency in the mainly pagan or Christian south and triggered an outcry among Sudan's Western backers and human rights groups.

In future was a key issue in last month's elections, and politicians say Mahdi's handling of the issue will determine how Sudan's democratic experiment evolves in the immediate future.

The rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), which has fought government troops in southern Sudan since 1983, insists on abrogation of Sharia as a condition for peace talks, a demand shared by southern political parties.

Southerners also want a secular constitution to safeguard the rights of Sudan's non-Muslim minority.

The demands are expected to be raised at a proposed national constitutional conference next month, which the Ethiopian-backed SPLA has said it will attend.

Mahdi, in a major concession to the SPLA and southern political groups, has said he intends to repeal Sharia before bringing in what he terms a moderate Islamic code applying only to Muslims. A different judicial code would govern non-Muslims.

This plan ran into opposition from his coalition partner, the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), which favours amendments to existing Sharia laws but not their repeal.

In a "national charter" drafted last month, the DUP and Mahdi's Umma Party agreed that the 301-seat constituent assembly elected last month should have the last

word. Diplomats said the outcome of a vote on the issue when the assembly meets next month was hard to forecast.

The Umma has 99 seats and the DUP 63, giving them a combined majority if all members follow party lines. But the diplomats said growing signs of DUP sympathy for the headline pro-Sharia National Islamic Front (NIF) have thrown the vote wide open.

The Sharia issue was the main reason for the exclusion of the NIF, led by Hassan Al Tourabi, from negotiations to form a broad-based government, they added.

Tourabi, a top aide of Numeiri in 1983, was the architect of Sharia's introduction. But the expelled President accused Tourabi of conspiring to topple him and jailed him shortly before Numeiri was overthrown in April 1985.

The NIF, which holds 51 parliamentary seats, insists Sharia must stay untouched — a view which made Umma legislators, who see Tourabi as an extremist, refuse to share power with the NIF.

The record of punishments under Islamic law during Numeiri's regime shocked moderates. There are no official figures, but by one unofficial count there were nine public hangings, 70 amputations of hands or feet and several hundred floggings in five months of emergency laws beginning in April 1984.

Numeiri, who now lives in Cairo, relaxed most Sharia rules before his overthrow. The army generals who toppled him and then ruled for a year before quitting last month avoided taking any action on the issue.

As politicians continue to squabble over Sharia, ordinary Sudanese are making the most of a more relaxed atmosphere. Discos have reopened in Khartoum and officials are turning a blind eye. Young couples stroll hand-in-hand in quiet areas of the capital, something unthinkable in the heyday of Sharia.

Alcohol is still banned, but the rich manage to buy smuggled liquor. The poor make their own from dates and sugar cane.

Diplomats said only a few people had been sentenced to amputations or flogging since Numeiri's overthrow, but no sentences had been carried out since early 1985.

Peru's Maoist rebels, on sixth anniversary, recruit widely

By Walker Simpson

Reuter

LIMA — Peru's Maoist guerrillas reached the sixth anniversary of their insurgency on May 18, having spread to all the nation's 24 states and driven the government increasingly to restrict democratic freedoms.

The Sendero Luminoso (shining path) rebels, ranked in a public opinion poll as the top national problem, are expanding by recruiting youths frustrated by a lack of jobs in a recession-bound economy, the police say.

Only a third of the work force has a steady job, so up to five-sixths of 300,000 youths annually entering the job market fail to find employment.

Diplomats note that the radical Maoist Senderos are growing, although President Alan Garcia, a Social Democratic elected last year, is the most left-leaning democratic leader in South America.

Peru's legal Marxist party is the region's biggest, with a quarter of congressional seats, but leftists blame the gloomy economic situation for Sendero's spread.

The immense majority of youths in this country don't work, don't study and are completely in despair," Maoist senator Rolando Brenza said last month.

"That is where Sendero recruits its militants and that's why they are so young and so dedicated."

They are not afraid of anything," he said. National attention last weekend focused on the zeal of two teenagers aged about 15, described by Lima tabloids as "boy bombs."

They died when the dynamite they were concealing under their shirts exploded prematurely.

Police believe that up to 90 per cent of Sendero's estimated 5,000-strong force are under 35 years old.

Recruits are taught in so-called "popular schools" that Peru's democratic system must be overthrown as a prelude for a Sendero-led republic based on the purist egalitarian ideals of the Chinese gang of four, which controlled China's cultural revolution.

"It (Sendero) aims to change the system, not the government and its strategy is of attrition, of a prolonged war that could be 20 or 30 years, where time doesn't count," former military prime minister, Edgardo Mercado Jarrin, said last week.

Sendero's battle to undermine democracy was symbolised by its first attack on May 18, 1980, the national election day that returned Peru to democracy after 12 years of military rule.

Burning ballot boxes that day in Chuschi, in south-eastern Ayacucho, it began its more than 7,600 attacks, which have cost 7,200 lives, according to a gov-

ernment count. Sendero's next "great leap," as it terms a major offensive, will be aimed at disrupting the municipal elections in November, according to police sources.

Last December, Sendero decided to step up killings of municipal officials to discourage participation in the poll.

Since then, at least 23 government officials, most of them at the municipal level have been killed. Sendero has also bombed this year 23 district offices of the ruling American Popular Revolutionary Alliance.

To sap the vigour of the counter-insurgency response, Sendero decided to have its hit squads assassinate "senior military and police officers. Seven have been killed this year, including a rear-Admiral in Lima."

According to the police, the guerrillas' timetable is to form a popular guerrilla army by 1990 to seize and defend territory for the first time.

At present, they are not regarded as a major strategic threat to a 130,000-strong military and 85,000-member police force.

Of the 7,200 people killed so far, only about 80 have been soldiers and 240 police. Sendero has killed them mainly to steal weapons to expand its tiny arsenal.

Police estimate that Sendero's firepower includes about 80 machine-guns, 130 revolvers and

more than 160,000 sticks of dynamite. Lobbing its dynamite, mainly stolen from mines, Sendero mounts nearly weekly attacks, deepening a sense of insecurity among citizens.

A national public opinion poll by Datum, a surveying firm, found that Peruvians last month rated guerrilla attacks as the top problem, slightly ahead of unemployment.

The concern was reflected in a poll in Lima. Last August, days after Garcia took power, only 14 per cent of those surveyed thought rebel violence was a leading problem.

The figure rose to 40 per cent in April despite a state of emergency, suspending key constitutional rights and imposing a four-hour curfew, decreed in Lima in February to fight Sendero.

Six of Peru's 24 states are now under the emergency, putting the military in charge of deciding an array of matters, including permits for public assembly and demonstrations.

The move has prompted claims that democracy is being eroded under Garcia.

The Socialist Revolutionary Party, a non-Marxist Socialist group, is the latest force to level this charge after the military banned it from holding a long-planned party meeting.

Argentina's past is an open wound with 3 presidents jailed

By Andres Wolberg-Stok

Reuter

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina has jailed three of its past four presidents but both the "dirty war" against left-wing guerrillas and the Falklands (Malvinas) war against Britain remain open wounds.

Jorge Videla, whose 1976 coup began eight years of right-wing military rule, was given a life term last December for his part in the campaign against the left in which up to 9,000 people disappeared.

His successor, Roberto Viola, was jailed for 17 years for his role in the operations, in which most of those who vanished are believed to have been kidnapped, tortured and murdered by security forces.

Leopoldo Galtieri, who ordered the invasion of the south Atlantic islands held by Britain, was sentenced to 12 years last Friday. All three were stripped of the rank of General.

But human rights groups say

punishing Videla, Viola and three other former junta members is not enough.

A military court that sentenced Galtieri and jailed his junta colleagues Jorge Anaya and Basilio Lami Dozo said they botched the 10-week Falklands war.

The court stressed that it was not judging the political decision to invade the Falklands and that Argentina's claim was a just cause. Civilian President Raul Alfonsín, who took office in December 1983, says Argentina will use only peaceful ways to seek sovereignty over the islands.

The 13 other Falklands defendants, effectively acquitted, include Navy Lieutenant Alfredo Astiz, who surrendered the south Georgia Islands without a fight.

Astiz is better known at home for being acquitted twice in military trials over the disappearance of a Swedish-Argentine teenager. His name has also been linked

with the disappearance of two French nuns.

To human rights groups and the left, Astiz epitomizes a need for lower-ranking officers to be tried for "dirty war" abuses as well.

After the Falklands sentences, about 20,000 people marched to demand more trials.

They fear the government will appease the armed forces by applying the principle of "due obedience," which says soldiers who merely followed orders should not be punished.

The government says those who committed "horrendous crimes" — rape, torture, extortion or robbery — will not go free.

Alfonsín is fighting to win control of the unruly intelligence services and rid them of hard-liners who supplement their incomes with kidnapping and robberies.

The government has twice been embarrassed by its handling of the intelligence agencies.

Distrusting the existing ones, it set up a small new group to provide reliable information but one of its main employees turned out to be wanted in connection with kidnapping and murder.

Extradited from Spain, he was left free while court proceedings unfolded, gave interviews from his living-room bedecked with Nazi symbols, then vanished.

In another case, Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli is to testify in congress next week on the involvement of three intelligence agents in the kidnap of a businessman.

The three agents, who are under arrest, had been appointed by the Defence Ministry to help the police find the businessman, who remains missing 10 months after his abduction.

Just before Friday's sentences, bombs ripped through at least eight offices of Alfonsín's radical party.

مكتبة ابن خلدون



The guide Atallah Atieh posing for the camera with thleithwat (three mountains) in the background (Photo by Arslan Ramadan)



Dr. Malt taking a photograph of a well's head at Bayer as a desert policeman watches (Photo by Arslan Ramadan)

60 years later: Jordanian desert revisited

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — An American folk art expert has recently concluded a journey through Jordan's eastern desert, retracing an expedition made nearly 60 years earlier by world traveller, explorer, author and internationally known anthropologist — Dr. Henry Field.

Dr. Carol Malt from Florida in the United States said that she embarked on this desert trip, which took her from Amman through Qatraneh to Bayer, to Jaffar, to Ma'an and Petra, in order to prove that man had travelled from East to West and not the opposite, which was not known before Dr. Field who died last year at 83. Dr. Malt made the journey in homage of her friend and mentor. She said Dr. Field was interested in ancient man and his migratory patterns and that on her trip she was looking at graffiti, wasms and tribal markings that Dr. Field mentioned in his journals as examples of artistic and cultural expression.

Dr. Malt said in an interview

with the Jordan Times that she will be presenting a report on her trip with photographs to the Ministry of Tourism as soon as they are ready. She was accompanied on the trip by retired Jordanian Captain Arslan Ramadan.

Mr. Ramadan documented in a seven-page report, details of the journey through the desert with his personal observations.

The journey began on the morning of Saturday, May 3, from Amman to Qatraneh where they picked up a tourists' guide called Atallah Atieh who was at the town's municipality. They headed towards the "thleithwat" area which is better known as "the three sisters" from T.E. Lawrence's book Seven Pillars of Wisdom. On the way, they observed several birds and animals which roamed the desert.

The weather according to Mr. Ramadan was fair with light scattered rain which reduced the level of dust that could have made the trip more difficult with their car following the track of the guide ahead.

On the way to thleithwat, Dr.

Malt noticed something that looked like a lake in the distance. She was surprised when she was told that what she saw was nothing but a mirage. It was the first time she sees such a thing, Mr. Ramadan said.

He said that they would have never made it to thleithwat without the guide who knew his way around the desert very well.

Upon arriving at thleithwat, Dr. Malt stopped to take photographs of the three adjacent mountains and to take notes of her observations on that area.

The next stop was in Bayer where they were received by the desert police who welcomed them and offered them tea and coffee. Then they proceeded to the wells area in Bayer which was thoroughly documented by the late Dr. Field with illustrations of what he saw back in 1927. They noticed that several well stones were removed in the period between 1933 and 1935 and used in the construction of the Bayer police station.

In his book "The North Arabian Desert Survey," Dr. Field

included several photographs of the area with a focus on architectural patterns and tribal signs. The journey included a trip to Jaffar where they saw mud houses, gardens. They also visited the house of Sheikh Mohammad Abu Tayeh where together with other guests, they had mansaf for dinner. According to Mr. Ramadan, they also watched the film Lawrence of Arabia on Video. Mr. Abu Tayeh was a child of ten in 1917.

In the film, Mohammad Abu Tayeh appears as a child on horseback beside his father Odeh Abu Tayeh, the role of the latter was played in the film by American Actor Anthony Quinn. Sheikh Mohammad Abu Tayeh married 17 women in his life and now has only one wife.

Ma'an was the last stop in the journey about 65 kilometres from Al Jaffar. They toured historic sites in the city before returning to Amman via the main desert road.

Before the trip, Dr. Malt said in an interview with the Jordan Times that Dr. Field was not the only reason for her trip to Jordan.

She explained that she had "a long love affair with the Middle East." She has also visited Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt and Tunisia on previous occasions.

She said that Dr. Field undertook several expeditions in the area of Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Syria in the period between 1927 and 1950. Dr. Field worked with the British army in Jordan in 1927 and made a survey and a map of the area.

Dr. Malt said that her main objective of making the desert trip was to get photographs of wasms and well heads "to show they were still there as mentioned in Dr. Field's diary."

Dr. Malt, who is the North American representative of the magazine Arts and the Islamic World published in London, said she will be publishing her findings in Jordan in the magazine. She said that she will be also publishing in magazines like Aramco and the Miami Herald daily back home. She is also publishing a book on the Middle East which will include information about this trip.

She is the Folk Art Centre of the Americas director and curator for the last year and for six years director of the Art and Culture Centre of Hollywood, Florida.

Dr. Malt told the Jordan Times that her trip was financed through private funding and cooperation by the Ministry of Tourism and local individuals.

Dr. Field who has been the driving force behind Dr. Malt's expedition was the grand nephew of the American department store magnate Marshall Field. He was born in Chicago, educated at Eton and Oxford. He became fascinated in boyhood with the nature and history of mankind.

In 1925, before his graduation from Oxford, he made an expedition to Egypt to see firsthand the tombs of the Egyptian Pharaohs, including Tutankhamon. Over the years his research led him on numerous other expeditions, including one to the ancient Mesopotamian city of Kish, where his excavations uncovered evidence that the city was over-swept by a deluge. "This could be evidence of Noah's flood," Dr. Field said in 1975.

Magic of the silk road can still be savoured

By Graham Earnshaw
Reuters

KASHGAR, China — The magic of the silk road has dazzled imaginations for centuries. Now the reality is more accessible than it was in the days of Marco Polo because of China's decision to open up to foreign tourists.

The silk road was the romantic name given to the trade route across central Asia which linked China's heartland with the Mediterranean for over 1,000 years.

These days Chinese silk usually travels to the markets of the West in container ships. But the string of oases which traders once used on their arduous journey through the desert wastes still exists and the magic is still there.

The Kashgar bazaar, one of the wonders of central Asia in ancient times, is back in business on the western fringes of China after being closed down during the years of radicalism in the 1960s and 1970s.

In the oasis of Turfan, on the eastern edge of the fearsome Taklamakan desert, foreign travellers can once again rest under grape trellises and swap stories of their adventures, just as their predecessors must have done long ago.

The ancient Buddhist shrines of Dunhuang, carved out of a desert cliff as long as 1,600 years ago, have again become a magnet for the devout and the curious.

Foreigners have returned to the bazaar along the old silk road to haggle for carpets and to sample the roast mutton shashliks and onion bread cakes for which the Uighur people are famous.

And the Khunjerab pass, linking China with Pakistan over the mighty Karakoram mountain range, has just opened to foreign travellers, making accessible the southern spur of the silk road which once linked central Asia with the sub-continent.

Travellers used to fear the forbidding Taklamakan and Gobi deserts with good reason in ancient times. But tourists can now traverse them in trains, planes or buses rather than on the camels which served as "the ships of the sea" here just as they did in the Sahara.

The camels are still here, of course, and are still used for shipping goods through remote regions. A camel-trader in the Kashgar market said a good pack-camel these days costs the equivalent of about \$350.

Travellers wishing to relive the days of Marco Polo can rent camels at the Dunhuang oasis for a trip

into nearby sand dunes which are so huge that a special word has been created for them — megadunes.

Rising 500 metres out of the desert just a short way from the line of trees marking the limit of human habitation, the megadunes are awe-inspiring.

Many travellers through this corner of the Gobi desert, including Marco Polo in the 13th century, have remarked on the "singing sands," the ability of these dunes to emit a thunder-like roar when walked upon.

I slugged up and down a megadune to try to inspire it into song but, for me at least, the sands remained obstinately silent.

Not so silent are the Uighur people who still form a majority of the population in China's far west region in spite of massive government-sponsored migration of people from China proper in the last three decades.

Every one of these Muslim people seems to be a natural singer and dancer, and the noisy exuberance of a Uighur wedding is an experience to remember.

There were really two silk roads in the old days — one to the north and one to the south of the great Taklamakan desert.

The southern route through Khotan and Yarkand is closed at present — partly because conditions are said to be primitive and partly because the government has set up labour camps at some oases along the route where criminals from east China atone for their sins by helping to keep the desert at bay.

In Kashgar, visitors can stay at the former British and Russian consulates, scenes of intrigue at the turn of the century when the "great game" — the tussle between Moscow and London for control of the approaches to India — was in full swing.

Nestling amongst the mountains of fire outside the Turfan oasis are the Bezeklik cave shrines. The caves, containing marvellous Buddhist murals dating back well over 1,000 years, were discovered in 1906 by German explorer Albert von Leocoq, who hacked huge slabs off the walls and took them back to Berlin where many were destroyed by allied bombing in World War II.

The murals he left behind were systematically mutilated in the decades which followed by local Muslims.

So was von Leocoq right to take the murals, Chinese officials have no doubts on the question. They condemn him bitterly as a barbarous thief.

Catalogue of world's birds comes out after 55 years' work

By Catherine Arnst
Reuters

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — After 55 years of work, Harvard University has finally completed the ultimate bird book, a 6,400-page catalogue of every known bird on earth.

"The Checklist of the Birds of the World," published by Harvard's museum of comparative zoology, contains information on 30,000 species, races and subspecies of birds in its 15 volumes. It is the only complete list in existence of any group of animals or plants.

There may also never be another one, according to the museum's ornithology curator, Raymond Paynter.

"Nobody in his right mind would start a project like this... you have to be almost a nut to do it because the work is so fussy, so detailed," he said.

Paynter, 60, who has supervised the project since 1960, inherited the job. The checklist was the brainchild of a previous ornithology curator at the museum, James Peters.

When he started the work, in the mid-1920s, the only comparable list was a work compiled by Bowdler Sharpe, an assistant curator of the British Museum, published at the turn of the century and badly out of date 20 years later because of the hundreds of new species that had been discovered.

Peters published the first volume of the work in 1931, and was only a third of the way through when he died in 1952. "The museum felt obliged to continue the work in his honour," said Paynter. "He devoted more than 30 years of his life to this."

The books, known as "Peters Checklist" in ornithological circles, is not for the run-of-the-mill bird watcher. A complete set costs \$605 and the museum has published only 1,500 copies, primarily for use by museums.

Paynter called the set "a gigantic filing system." Birds are arranged according to their Latin name, followed by the name of their discoverer and their geographic habitat.

It includes all known species since the start of recorded history, including species now extinct, but Paynter said it is not really a complete inventory because it does not include what he calls "fossil birds" — those from prehistoric times. "We limited it to the feathered birds," he said.

Paynter supervised a team of 30, including four other editors beside himself, and said the work was really "a collaborative effort in the most complete sense."

To ensure the accuracy of each entry, researchers had to search all known documents on each type of bird.

"In the old days there was a lot of rivalry in this field," said Paynter. "The naming of birds was an end in itself, it immortalised the discoverer."

A bird could end up with three or four names as different discoverers published their findings

in a variety of scientific journals around the world. "Our job was to find out which person named the bird first," said Paynter.

Such an index is possible only with birds, he said, because they are the most studied and best known of all the animals. But it was, he said, an amazing accomplishment that the checklist was completed.

"Ornithology is replete with examples of major projects started and never finished simply because the authors did not live long enough," he said.

Peters may have realised that he would never see his project completed. "I don't know why he started. If he lived to be 100, he never would have finished," said his successor.

Paynter is not concerned that Peters' checklist will go the way of the British volume of the 1900s because it is very rare for a new bird to be discovered these days. "I have never found a new species nor have most of my colleagues —

it is so very difficult," he said. He is "relieved" the work is done, although he admits it is not quite complete. He still has to write an index, which will become the 16th volume.

But for the most part, Paynter can now devote more attention to his own project — a study of the birds of South America.

Nairobi's environmental detectives

By Peter Ngunjiri

The mystery of how poisons have been finding their way into the Nairobi River has been solved by women from Kenya's Green Belt Movement. Their principal clues were dying trees and the brewing of illegal "chang'aa".

NAIROBI, Kenya — "The Nairobi River is poisoned," says Wangari Maathai, founder of Kenya's Green Belt Movement, "and few people know what is happening." Women from the movement unravelled an environmental "crime" which began when trees started dying.

Professor Maathai fears for the people living downstream from Nairobi, who depend on the river for all their water requirements. Though the water still looks all right, wastes generated by illegal brewing are rendering it unfit for both drinking and agriculture.

The pollution threat was discovered by women from the Green Belt Movement. Their organisation, a broad-based, non-governmental body which has spearheaded much of Kenya's reforestation effort, decided a few years ago to clean up Mathare Valley, a Nairobi slum. Trees were the first order of business, since the barren slum was very dusty.

The movement started tree nurseries where women could grow their own seedlings, selling the surplus back to the movement. Located on the banks of the Nairobi River, the nurseries used its waters to irrigate the seedlings.

Maathai originally believed that, with the co-operation she was getting from the women in the area, the movement would reforest not only Mathare Valley, but the whole of Nairobi's Eastlands

section. These dreams were shattered when almost all the seedlings died, poisoned by the water which should have sustained them.

The Green Belt Movement established the fact that residents of Mathare Valley contributed to this problem as they dumped their rubbish — including toxic substances — into the river. The chief culprits were the makers of the illegal brew known as "chang'aa". Their use of empty and probably contaminated industrial drums allowed insecticides or other poisons to enter the river.

The brewers buy the used

drums and attempt to clean them by burning rubber inside them. The resulting residue, a concentrated mess of charred rubber and contaminants, is then washed into the river.

Maathai describes how, to test the river, the movement drew samples of water at different times of day. "The water was practically black between noon and two o'clock, full of soot produced by drum-cleaning operations." In the mornings and evenings the water was clear.

An unpublished chemical analysis of the river confirms that it is a potential killer of people and livestock. Concentrations of some metals, including sodium, potassium, copper, aluminium, zinc and manganese, have reached dangerous levels. Large quantities of lead and traces of mercury, both

of which are highly toxic, are also present.

Concentrations of all the pollutants seem to increase as the river passes through Nairobi. What is not known is the chemical form which the various metals take, a factor which is crucial in determining their level of toxicity.

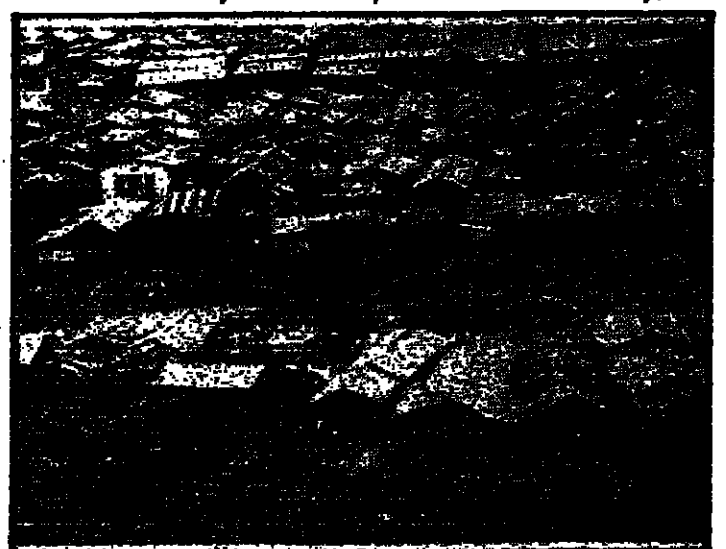
The Green Belt Movement is attempting to raise public awareness of the problem, but is hampered by its lack of funds. It proposes that the Nairobi City Commission should revamp the sewerage system and refuse collection in Mathare valley, and that companies which sell empty drums should detoxify them before releasing them.

Maathai says that if funds were available the movement would commission more research. "We should realise," she says, "that developed countries are now cleaning their rivers at very prohibitive costs. We cannot afford this."

She argues that it is cheaper to prevent pollution than to clean it up. "These companies (which release drums and rubber) should be told that their products are actually poisoning the river."

Meanwhile the eyesore which triggered the detective story — the dusty, treeless, chang'aa-brewing Mathare Valley slum — remains unchanged, awaiting the day when the Green Belt women have the resources to knock it into shape — Earthscan.

Peter Ngunjiri is an award-winning Kenyan journalist based in Nairobi.



Nairobi's Mathare Valley shantytown (photo by Peter Ngunjiri)

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Steffi Graf confirms meteoric rise with upset of Navratilova

WEST BERLIN (R) — West German teenager Steffi Graf achieved a stunning victory over world number one Martina Navratilova Monday in the final of the \$150,000 West German Open to confirm her arrival at the summit of women's tennis.

The 16-year-old Graf needed just 65 minutes to beat Navratilova 6-2, 6-3, her first ever win over the American, who broke down in tears after the match.

"I am sorry I didn't play better, especially with my father and mother and my sister watching. It was over much too quickly," Navratilova said as she wiped the tears from her eyes.

Navratilova's sister, 23-year-old Jana, emigrated from the sisters' native Czechoslovakia in March and has asked for political asylum in West Germany. The older Navratilova has been a U.S. citizen since the early 1980s.

The victory, making Graf one of the top favourites for the French Open starting next week, took her to an amazing sequence of four successive titles and a run of 19 matches in a row without defeat.

In the space of six weeks she has beaten all the top players in the world, including number two Chris Evert Lloyd.

Graf said she thought she had played the best tennis of her career. "I was very relaxed," she said. "I don't think Martina played her best — for me she's still the number one. But obviously I'm thrilled to win."

Navratilova said she was ama-

zed how few unforced errors Graf made in the match. "I played about average for me. I didn't play well but I didn't play badly either. But she won all the close games today — that was the difference between us."

Graf, who continually put Navratilova under pressure with her powerful forehands and deep backhands, set the pattern for the match in the opening game with a gritty performance in which she saved four breakpoints.

She then broke the American to love and took Navratilova's service again to clinch the set at 6-2 in 31 minutes.

Graf's backhand was shaky at the beginning of the second set and Navratilova broke her serve in the first game and soon held a 3-1 lead.

But from 0-30 down on her next serve, Graf began to play like a dream and seemed unable to do anything wrong, reeling off five games in a row to seal the match.

The victory was particularly sweet for her because it was her first in Europe and was achieved at her home club of Rot-Weiss Berlin.

"It was very important psychologically for me to beat her," Graf said. "My confidence for

Paris will be really high now." It was Graf's fourth match against the world number one. In the previous three defeats she had never won more than five games. She said she planned to go home for a few days and take a complete rest from tennis before going on to Paris.

Navratilova, after wiping away the tears of defeat, put on a brave face at her after-match news conference. "I'm not finished yet. I haven't finished climbing my mountain yet," she said.

It was only Navratilova's second defeat this year — her last loss was against American Kathy Jordan in February.

But Graf is showing the same kind of consistency these days, with a record of 31 wins to three defeats this year.

Australians too wealthy for soccer

BRISBANE (R) — Australians are too wealthy to make their country a force in soccer, according to Craig Johnston, a member of English League and F.A. Cup double winners Liverpool.

"You've got to be poor enough to only have one toy — a soccer ball, or in Pelé's case a melon," the South African-born midfielder told a press conference Monday.

Johnston, 25, scored one of the goals in Liverpool's 3-1 victory over Everton in the F.A. Cup final nine days ago. He is in Australia to raise money in the Sport-Aid drive for aid to Africa.

Johnston grew up in the coal city of Newcastle north of Sydney, but says it was only the depression and isolation of Britain that had honed his skills.

"You need the poverty and the depression so there's only one thing to do, play soccer," Johnston said, adding that he had been lucky his father pushed him to train in England.



West Germany's 16-year-old Steffi Graf threatens to overtake Boris Becker's status as national idol after her effortless victory over world number one Martina Navratilova in the final of the West German Open on Monday (INP-Foto: Norbert Schmidt)

Worried Beckenbauer takes team to Mexico for training

FRANKFURT, West Germany (R) — West Germany's World Cup soccer squad left Monday for the Mexico finals with manager Franz Beckenbauer complaining bitterly of too little time to prepare his side for the tournament.

All but one of the 22-man squad left Frankfurt airport on the journey to Morelia, Mexico, where the West Germans will spend a week getting used to heat and high-altitude conditions.

Eike Immel of Borussia Dortmund was due to follow on alone after playing in goal Monday night in his club's battle against relegation to Division Two.

Beckenbauer told reporters at the airport that the team was capable of reaching the semifinals but he said the long domestic season had given him little time to prepare for the finals or for the squad to come together.

"Everyone is stepping up preparations, except us. I wonder whether it is even worth going to

Mexico," Beckenbauer said.

He said the squad, finalised only four days ago, would train hard in Morelia to acclimatise and improve speed and rhythm before moving on May 27 to Queretaro, where they play their opening match against Uruguay on June 4.

Barcelona downs Real Madrid

MADRID (R) — Barcelona inflicted a humiliating 4-0 defeat on Real Madrid (2-0 halftime) in a second round second leg Spanish League Cup match Sunday, winning the tie on aggregate 6-2.

Barcelona are desperately seeking to carry home a cup after their loss this year of the Spanish League and Cup and the European Cup.

West German midfielder Bernd Schuster remained at home for this lacklustre match, played without international players who are in Mexico for the World Cup.

Cuba claims 7 world boxing titles

RENO, Nevada (R) — Cuba confirmed its dominance in international amateur boxing by winning four title victories Sunday to amass an unprecedented total of seven gold medals at the fourth World Boxing Championships here.

That total is the highest ever achieved in international competition in which both western and eastern bloc countries participated, besting the five golds won by Cuba at the 1978 and 1982 World Boxing Championships and by the United States at the 1976 Montreal Olympics.

Light flyweight Juan Torres and flyweight Pedro Reyes won Cuba's first two titles of the day on unanimous decisions.

Nineteen-year-old light middleweight Angel Espinosa and defending light heavyweight champion Pablo Romero later added

two more for Cuba. The day's other victors were bantamweight Moon Sung Kil of South Korea, who won despite a sprained left hand, and light welterweight Vasili Shishov of the Soviet Union.

The stylish Shishov averted a shutout here for the Soviet Union, the dominant country in this sport as recently as the early 1970s.

The United States, which brought a young team not expected to fare well, could not add to three gold medals won on Saturday as Loren Ross was handled easily by Romero, 4-1.

In other 4-1 decisions, Kil beat Rene Breitbarth of East Germany, Shishov defeated Howard Grant of Canada and Espinosa beat Enrico Richter of East Germany.

The Cuban 5-0 victories came when Torres beat Luis Rolon of

Puerto Rico and Reyes defeated David Griman of Venezuela. All the bouts were one-sided, although no fighter was knocked down or even had a standing-eight count administered.

Cuba also won seven boxing gold medals at the 1980 Moscow Olympics, but a large number of western bloc countries including the United States boycotted that competition.

The United States captured nine boxing gold medals at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, but Cuba and the Soviet Union among other eastern bloc countries did not participate.

A disappointing total attendance of 10,273 saw the 10-day, 18-session event here which determined the early favourites for the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, South Korea.

Maradona confident about his team

By Rex Gowar
Reuter

us full freedom of movement on the pitch," he said.

The midfield maestro played down England's 3-0 victory over hosts Mexico in a warm-up match in Los Angeles on Saturday, and said: "The result doesn't mean anything."

Maradona added: "Mexico lost not because England were better but because of defensive mistakes which the English took advantage of."

Argentina's tall and powerful striker Jorge Valdano, who plays for European Football Union (UEFA) Cup holders Real Madrid, said he believed the World Cup would not produce any new stars.

"The same top players as in the last World Cup are in the running for the mantle of the world's best," he said.

"The tournament will be a cha-

llenge for the good coaches. They will have to innovate," he said. Valdano said Mexico's attitude and climate would be decisive. The physical advantages of the European sides would be reduced in these conditions, which favoured the South Americans, but he said France and Spain had the skill to overcome the conditions.

"The Spanish have at last put aside their renowned fighting spirit and begun playing good football. And Platini will resolve many of France's problems with his skill in dead ball situations," Valdano added.

Valdano was surprised at England's performance in their victory over Mexico. "They had an exceptionally good first half. They appear to have prepared much better than for the Spain finals," he said.

Brazil's troubles grow with Edson injury

MEXICO CITY (R) — Right-back Edson twisted his ankle as Brazil limped to a workout win against local side Atlante Sunday, adding to the South American soccer stars' World Cup injury woes.

Edson's injury was described as fairly minor but coach Tele Santana said Zico and Cerezo must recover from their respective knee and hamstring injuries by Friday or miss the finals.

"I want Zico and Cerezo to be clinically fit to take part in at least one of our workouts this week. If not, I'll have no other choice but to drop them," Santana told newsmen after Brazil's unconvincing 2-1 victory over Atlante.

Edson was injured midway through the second half but doctor Neylor Lasmar said he could return to training within three to four days.

"It's not so serious. Edson was

told to use an ice bag over the next 24 hours and tomorrow I'll look at it again. But it does not look so bad, as his foot did not even swell much," Lasmar added.

The Brazilians came from behind to beat Atlante with goals from centre-forward Casagrande and midfielder Socrates, who replaced Elao after the interval. Left-winger Casanova scored for the Mexicans in the 42nd minute.

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مكتبة النور

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.5190/200	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3747/57	Canadian dollars
	2.2245/55	West German marks
	2.5045/55	Dutch guilders
	1.8560/70	Swiss francs
	45.33/38	Belgian francs
	7.8000/50	French francs
	1525/1526	Italian lire
	168.50/60	Japanese yen
	7.1175/275	Swedish crowns
	7.5600/700	Norwegian crowns
	8.2300/400	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	342.00/342.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed generally firmer after a quiet session, helped to some extent by weekend press comment. But dealers said trading was cautious on fears of further rights issues after the cash call by National Westminster Bank last week.

At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was up 7.4 at 1,572.3 while at 1400 GMT the F.T. 30 was 3.3 points higher at 1,292.8.

The market showed little reaction to news the U.K. public sector borrowing requirement was \$861 million in April after a £3 billion in March. However, news that U.K. April retail sales fell 0.7 per cent pushed leading stores down.

Government bonds ended showing gains of around ¼ point at the longer end but index linked issues lost about ½ point. Dealers said the bond market moved ahead mainly in reaction to the recovery of the U.S. long bond in London trading on Monday.

Among equity leaders, ICI closed 2p better at 884, Plessey 8p higher at 226 and GKN 5p up at 324. Associated British Foods was 2p up at 332 after improved full-year pretax profits.

After 502 after 494 and National Westminster steady at 740 after 735. Insurances were dull with Royal Insurance 8p lower on the day at 909.

YOUR DAILY
Horoscope
from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, MAY 20, 1986.

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Until this evening, you will find it difficult to work out any problems with others, so make sure you are precise in what you say and listen closely to what is expected of you.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You are being pressured by an outsider who wants you to get into a plan that you do not like. Don't give in.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Your tasks seem unending, but persevere and all works out fine just the same; by tonight they will be solved.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Wait until a better day for entertainment since there are delays connected with them right now. Tonight is fine for romance.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) It is important that you use tact at home and that the conditions will improve before the evening rolls around.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Don't be too anxious about a delay on some important missive since it might not be to your liking.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You may not get the aid you had expected with a new project during the daytime, but by evening the situation will change.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are not certain how to gain a goal, so think of some new way that is much better and get good results.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) It may not be easy to gain the information you need to solve a problem, so persevere and you get it by this evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Don't try to seek favors from a bigwig during the daytime, but you have success in the evening. Be diplomatic.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You may not get the help you need from a higher-up, so be patient and do whatever you like in the evening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You are anxious to get into new interests, but it is better to study them further first.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Be exact in handling collections and payments so that no trouble ensues later. You know how to become more skillful this evening.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will have to be taught to be more patient and to quietly study any situation well before taking any action, just to be on the safe side. One who will do well in whatever requires precision, so slant the education along such lines. Sports are favored here.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Omani government warns money changers

MUSCAT (AP) — Private foreign exchange dealers have been warned by the Central Bank of Oman (CBO) that their business will be closed down if they violate exchange regulations, it was reported here Sunday. In this latest crackdown, the CBO has already fined one money changer 5,000 Omani riyals (\$12,900) for violating his license regulations and warned that any repetition would lead to the closure of the company, the bank bulletin reported. Oman, according to banking sources who refused to be identified, imposes the strictest controls on money changers in the Gulf. Each company has to be licensed by the CBO under the rules laid down by the board of governors in 1983, following the stock market crash in Kuwait. Under the license, the books and record of exchange dealers are subject to periodic inspection.

Soviet shipping line starts service to Gulf

DUBAI (R) — The Soviet Black Sea Shipping Line has begun the first regular container service between the Soviet Union and the Gulf, shipping officials said Monday. Mr. Khalid Khalifa Al Jallaf, deputy director of Dubai Ports and Customs Department, told Reuters the line's container ship Ananyev docked Sunday at Dubai's port Rashid. Local agents Mohibi Shipping said the line will serve Dubai every 14 days on a route from the Black Sea port of Ilyichsk via Genoa, Italy and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. The service will continue eastward to India, Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong. Mr. Jallaf said another Soviet service will be inaugurated at the end of the year to further expand shipping between the Soviet Union and the Gulf. The Soviet Union recently stepped up its representation in the Gulf by establishing diplomatic links with Oman and the United Arab Emirates, of which Dubai is the principal port.

Pakistanis shift accounts to avoid tax

KARACHI (R) — Pakistani savers withdrew over 2.5 billion rupees (\$156 million) from bank accounts this month to avoid paying an annual Islamic tax on them, the Business Recorder newspaper said Monday. The money, withdrawn just before the fasting month of Ramadan began on May 12, remained in the banking system in the form of pay orders and other untaxable credits, it said. As part of President Muhammad Zia Ul Haq's Islamisation drive, banks withdrew a 2.5 per cent Zakat tax on deposits on the eve of Ramadan every year. Queues form at banks just before Ramadan as savers transfer money from taxable accounts or declare themselves Shi'ite Muslims, who unlike the majority Sunnis do not have to pay Zakat. State Bank of Pakistan statistics show about 63 billion rupees (\$3.9 billion) in accounts is subject to Zakat.

USSR, Iraq discuss new economic pact

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq and the Soviet Union opened talks Monday aimed at signing a new economic agreement, diplomatic sources said. They said the talks, within meetings of the joint Iraq-Soviet economic and trade cooperation committee, would cover cooperation in the oil, energy and irrigation fields, and further Soviet participation in major development projects. The sources said the talks were aimed at signing a new economic cooperation between the two countries, already linked by a 1972 joint cooperation treaty. A Soviet embassy official said Moscow was building 95 major oil, power, petrochemical, agricultural and industrial projects in Iraq, 80 of which had been completed. He said thermo-and hydro-power stations built by the Soviet Union over the past few years produced more than 45 per cent of Iraq's total power capacity.

UAE banks press for reform

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — Banks in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are pressing for reform of interest rate laws to help them recover a mounting pile of bad debts.

The UAE Bank's Association submitted a memorandum Sunday night to the National Consultative Council (NCC), an appointed parliament in Abu Dhabi, urging that courts in the emirate recognise commercial interest rates.

The courts, in apparent deference to Islamic injunctions against interest, do not now sanction rates higher than 12 per cent for commercial transactions and nine per cent for non-commercial.

The Abu Dhabi law is the model for all other emirates in the seven-emirate federation except Dubai, where commercial interest rates are generally recognised.

The memorandum said banks now stood to lose large amounts of money when they took debtors to court for non-payment of loans. Actual commercial rates, especially when compounded, are much higher than the court allowed ceilings.

The issue is one of the most pressing facing the UAE banking sector, where as much as one-fourth of total outstanding loans, or some 10 billion dirhams (\$2.7 billion), is non-performing, bankers say.

would have to be referred to the ruler or deputy ruler of Abu Dhabi for approval.

Most foreign banks report drop in profitability

Meanwhile, most foreign banks operating in the UAE on Sunday reported a sharp fall in their 1985 balance sheet ranging from 31.4 million dirhams (\$8.53 million) to 2.5 million dirhams (\$68,000).

Overall profitability of commercial banks in the oil-rich Gulf country fell in 1985 according to the balance sheets of 33 foreign and locally incorporated banks released Sunday.

Seven out of the 14 foreign banks whose annual reports have been released so far, showed a net loss during 1985.

The largest losses were reported by Citibank at 31.5 million dirhams (\$8.55 million), Standard Chartered Bank 14.6 million dirhams (\$3.96 million) and Lloyds Bank 11.2 million dirhams (\$3.04 million).

The Hong Kong-based British Bank of the Middle East was the only major foreign bank to show a profit of 54 million dirhams (\$14.67 million) last year. But this figure represented a 34 per cent drop from the 1984 profit of 82 million dirhams (\$22.28 million).

Two other banks Algemeine Bank Nederland, and Banque Libanaise, showed a profit of 0.1 million dirhams (\$27,000) and 2.5 million dirhams (\$680,000) respectively, while Barclays Bank profits slipped 88 per cent to 2.3 million dirhams (\$625,000).

Banking sources said the foreign banks had tended to concentrate on corporate customers and the decline in business in the UAE struck them a hard blow.

Among the banks most badly hit are the ones which not only restricted their business to the corporate sector, but also selected a few of the bigger trading houses as their sole clients, said a banker who refused to be identified.

The result of this could mean some foreign banks will pull out of the UAE, he said.

None of the 19 local banks registered any loss, and locally incorporated banks numbered four out of the seven banks which showed an increase in their profits last year.

The largest profits were reported by the National Bank of Dubai whose profits increased from 349 million dirhams (\$94.83 million) in 1984 to 375 million dirhams (\$101.19 million) last year.

Iran sharply curtails crude oil supplies to Syria because of debt, MEES says

NICOSIA (R) — Iran has heavily cut back crude oil supplies to Syria, mainly because of a Syrian debt to Tehran of \$1.5 billion for earlier supplies, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said Monday.

The Nicosia-based oil and finance newsletter said both the delay in Syrian payments and the price asked by Iran will need renegotiation before a new supply deal can be agreed.

A Syrian delegation is due in Tehran soon to discuss renewing the deal, part of an overall 1982 economic agreement, MEES said. Last renewed for one year in May 1985 it provided for Iran to give Syria one million tonnes of crude free of charge and a further five million at a discount of \$2.50 a barrel on the prevailing price.

Iranian parliamentary deputies last year criticised the accord because of Syria's delay in payments, the growing rift between Syria and Muslim fundamentalists in Lebanon and Syria's rapprochement with Jordan.

MEES said Syria has been buying oil on the Mediterranean spot market for the past three months, at a rate of some 90,000 tonnes every two weeks — equivalent to 48,000 barrels per day.

Syria had asked Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to make up the shortfall in Iranian deliveries, the newsletter said.

Libya boosts output

MEES also noted that Libya has boosted oil output to 1.1 million barrels per day (b/d) this month, close to levels prevailing late last year.

MEES attributed the recovery, from a low of 800,000 b/d in Feb-

ruary and March, to aggressive marketing by the Libyan National Oil Corporation. Libyan output last December averaged 1.3 million b/d, it said.

MEES said U.S. oil companies were lifting their full quotas, totalling 300,000 b/d, in advance of a June 30 U.S. government deadline for their withdrawal from Libya.

The companies are negotiating with both the Libyan and U.S. authorities to try to head off a total withdrawal, it added.

Under concession agreements Libya could seize the companies' assets if they withdrew unilaterally.

Meanwhile, oil ministers from five OPEC countries are expected to meet in the Saudi Arabian resort town of Taif on Friday to review development of ties with non-OPEC oil producers, oil industry sources said Sunday in Riyadh.

The group, comprising the ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Nigeria, Venezuela and Indonesia, was set up by a majority

decision of the conference of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) which ended last month in Geneva.

The meeting comes after indications that Norway's new Labour government would be willing to cooperate with the 13-nation group, reversing the position of its predecessor, and signs that high-cost oil wells in countries such as the United States are being shut down.

The ministers have been in touch publicly with non-OPEC oil producers, such as Egypt, Mexico and Malaysia, and are likely to have made behind-the-scenes contact with others, the sources said.

The industry newsletter Petroleum Intelligence Weekly last week estimated OPEC output at about 17.6 million b/d.

At last month's meeting, 10 OPEC members agreed to continue the group's policy of defending its fair share of the world oil market. Algeria, Iran and Libya dissented, favouring instead a sharp cutback in OPEC production to prop up prices.

Oil revives trade links between Asian foes

JAKARTA (R) — A growing trade in oil between Asia's two major crude producers, China and Indonesia, is reviving economic links between old foes, industry sources said Monday.

Indonesia, an influential member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), has also been heartened by Chinese statements suggesting Peking will cooperate with OPEC by limiting its crude production.

Last year China and Indonesia looked to be on a collision course as Peking stepped up oil exports and competed in Indonesia's traditional Asian markets.

But today China is importing

significant quantities of oil from Indonesia.

A spokesman for Indonesia's state oil company Pertamina told Reuters China bought around 1.5 million barrels of Indonesian crude in March and April for delivery this month.

He said China's state-owned oil firm Sinochem apparently found it more convenient to import from Indonesia to supply southern China rather than transport Chinese crude from fields in its northern region.

China has been buying mainly Indonesia's Minas light crude, the spokesman said.

Oil traders in Tokyo said Sino-

chem was also in the market for the heavier Duri variety. Some Tokyo traders estimated total Indonesian sales to China for June would be 1.5 million barrel.

Pertamina spokesman, Mr. Kus Endin said Jakarta hoped for further sales. He declined to give price details.

Indonesian Energy Minister Subroto told reporters that the key element for Indonesia was price. "If the price is right there is no problem, because Indonesia is working to diversify its market," he stated.

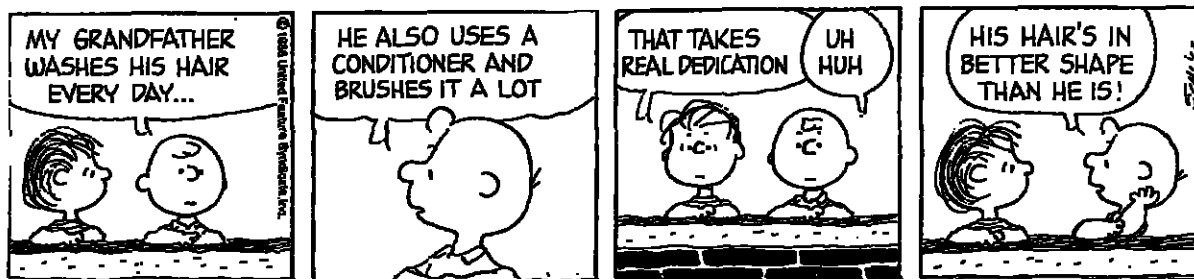
Jakarta suspended diplomatic relations with China in 1967 after accusing Peking of involvement in

an abortive leftist coup two years earlier. Agreement to resume direct trade links was reached last year, though Indonesia remains reluctant to reopen diplomatic ties.

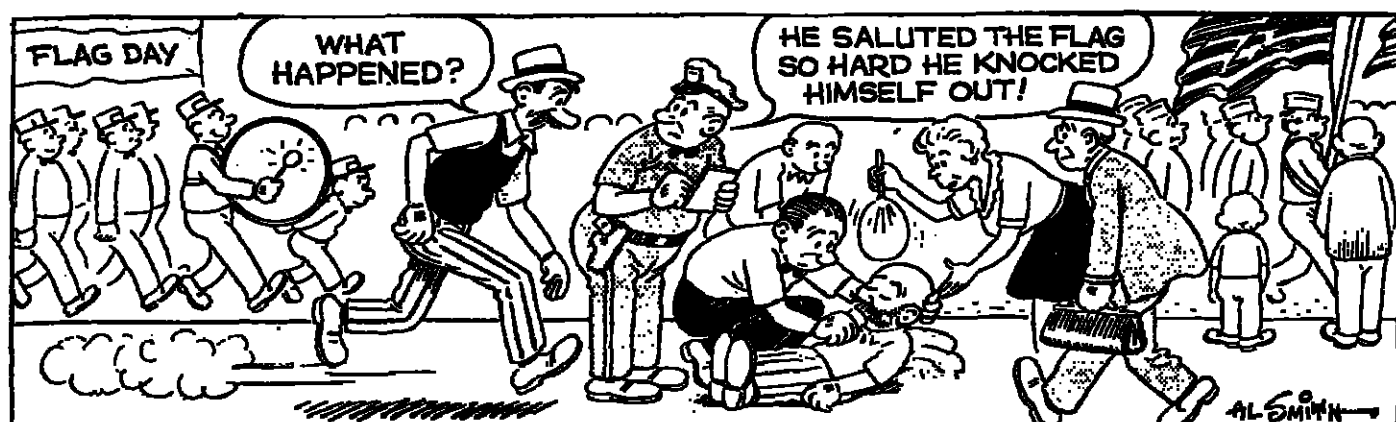
China has agreed in principle to buy \$350 million worth of Indonesian commodities including rubber, coffee, cement and plywood, but few hard contracts have been signed and oil sales are now leading the field.

President Suharto said in March that Indonesia would never resume diplomatic ties with China until Peking dismantled its support for communist movements in South East Asia.

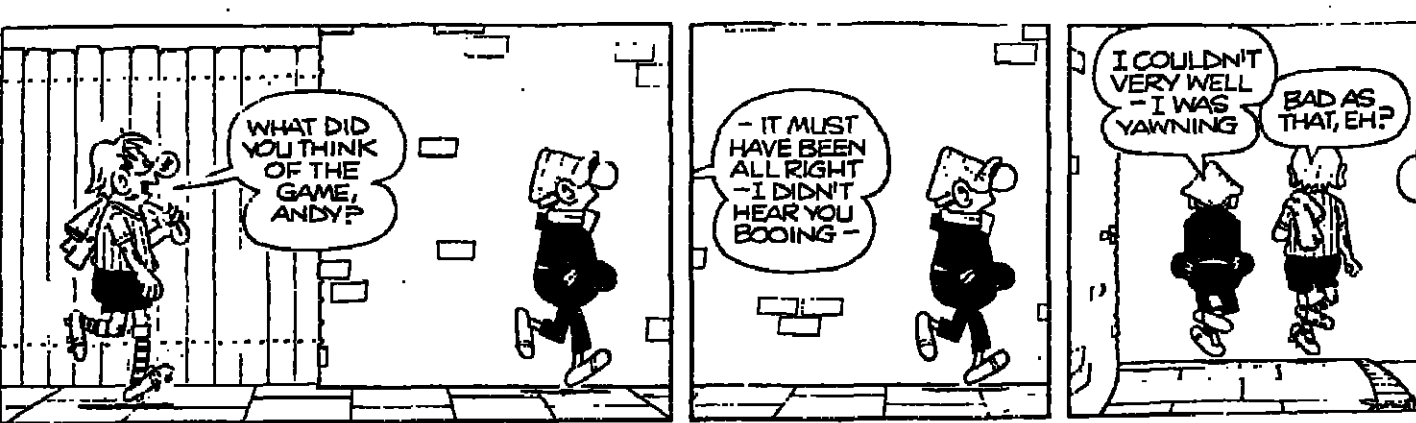
Peanuts



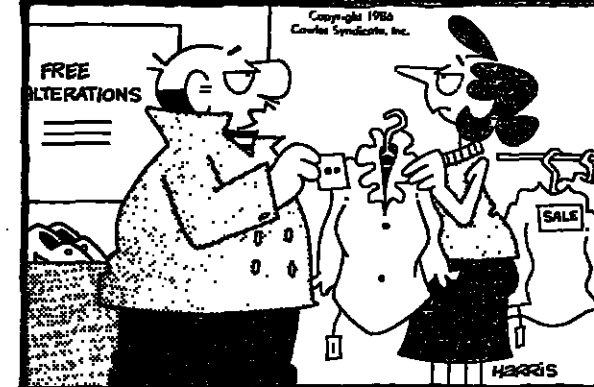
Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp

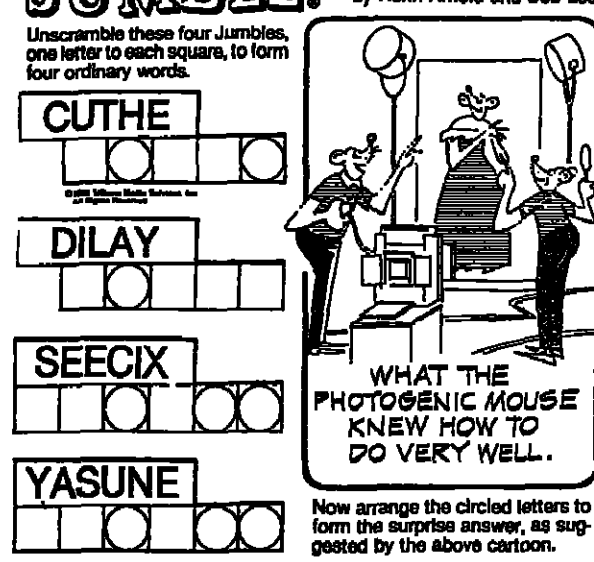


THE BETTER HALF By Harris



"The \$75 blouse is pretty...but not nearly as pretty as these \$2 earrings!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

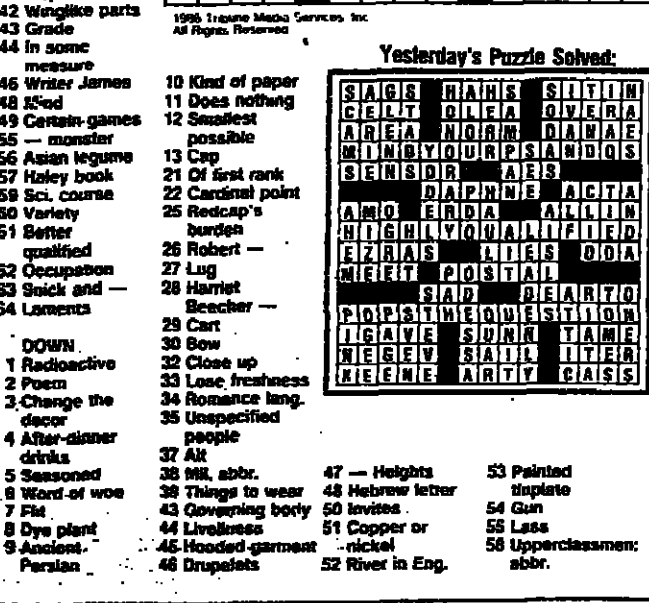
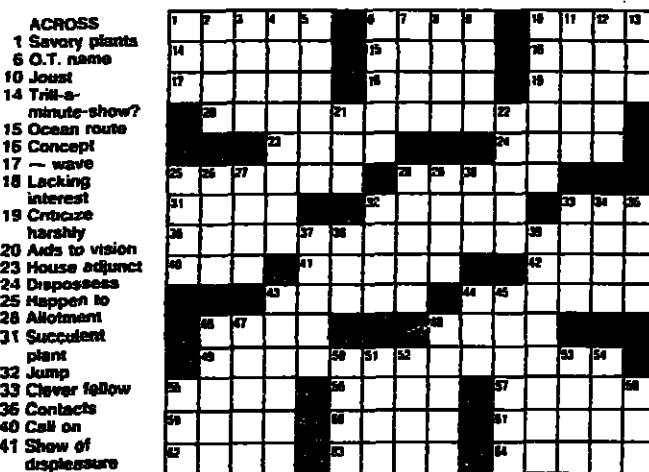


Print answer here: C U T H E D I L A Y S E E C I X Y A S U N E

Yesterday's Jumble: CARGO DOUGH SUGARY REBUKE

Answer: What they said about that crazy ornithologist - 'HE'S BUGGY'

THE Daily Crossword by James & Phyllis Barrick



Rebels block Colombo efforts to restore control over Jaffna

COLOMBO (R) — A three-pronged drive to restore government control of Jaffna peninsula in northern Sri Lanka has been held up by Tamil separatist guerrillas attacks on military convoys and camps, a spokesman said Monday.

The three columns had advanced only one to six miles (2 to 10 kilometres) towards Jaffna, Sri Lanka's fourth largest city, since the operation was launched on Saturday to end a year-long siege.

In the first detailed account of the fighting, the military spokesman said rebels attacked five camps Sunday, including the main military base in Jaffna city.

Troops were making very little progress because of heavy resistance but guerrillas had suffered heavy casualties in battles with rockets, mortars and automatic weapons.

Rebels were firing on military convoys from houses, churches, temples and other buildings.

Confirmed casualties were 19 guerrillas, one soldier and one civilian killed but it was probable many more rebels were killed and their bodies taken away by colleagues, he said.

The spokesman said that in one battle guerrillas raided Jaffna's military airport at Palali in a bid to attack aircraft on the ground.

The rebels also shot at a helicopter providing support to a col-

umn of troops fighting at Valveturai, north of the city. "Minor damage was caused to the aircraft. It is flying today," the spokesman said.

Residents of Jaffna said life was at a near standstill Monday as guerrillas set up machine gun posts or roamed the city with rocket launchers.

"Jaffna is tense. People are scared. They are remaining indoors," the military spokesman said. A Defence Ministry statement said fighting died out Sunday night as troops consolidated advances made so far in the operation.

But one Jaffna resident reported hearing 15 large explosions during the night.

The resident, who declined to be named, said the guerrillas' military commander in the northern peninsula region, identified only as "Kittu," slipped into town during the night to personally supervise rebel defences.

Kittu belonged to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) which has emerged as the main rebel group after a power struggle among the guerrillas two

weeks ago killed up to 150 people.

The military operation involved a three-pronged push from a besieged troop base in Jaffna. One column headed north from Elephant Pass, start of the peninsula, and two others converged on the city from nearby islands and beaches.

Military sources said the advances were slow because troops were having to clear roads and tracks, favourite targets for guerrilla landmines.

Several hundred travellers heading for Jaffna were stranded at a town about 15 kilometres before Elephant Pass.

A Defence Ministry spokesman said arrangements were being made to move the travellers on military-escorted ferries instead of along the road through the pass.

The operation marked the first attempt for one year to reassert government control over the Jaffna peninsula which has a population of nearly one million, overwhelmingly Tamils.

Sri Lanka's majority population is Sinhalese with about 13 per cent Tamils and a small number of Muslims. The guerrillas want a separate Tamil state stretching south from Jaffna to take in about one-quarter of the island.

President Juma Jayawardene vowed in a speech Sunday that the rebels would never win and he was

determined to totally wipe out terrorism.

In signs of a new tough government line Sri Lanka has announced it sees no reason to give further details of political proposals to end the insurgency until rebels return to the negotiating table.

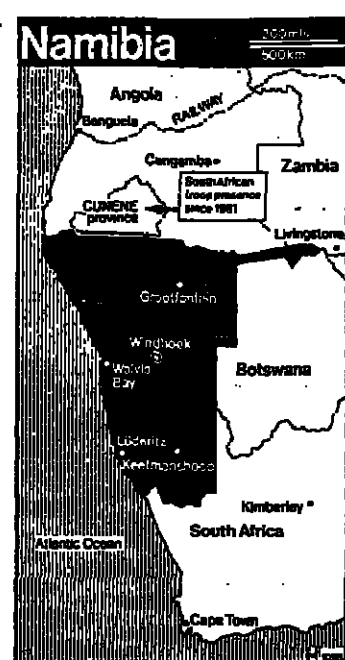
Neighbouring India, which has 50 million Tamils, has been mediating between Colombo and the rebels.

In New Delhi, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said Sri Lanka had altered its latest peace proposals and was moving towards a military solution to Tamil separatism, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

Mr. Gandhi told reporters on returning from a visit to four African countries the Sri Lankan government appeared to be less confident of a political solution to the island's ethnic crisis.

"We feel Sri Lanka's attitude seems to be changing," he said. "I have not yet received full reports but from what has appeared in the press, it looks like Sri Lanka is moving towards a military solution."

He said that shortly before his departure last Wednesday a Colombo envoy had brought fresh proposals which diluted a Sri Lankan peace package sent earlier this month.



Oxfam: Pretoria causing poverty in Namibia

LONDON (R) — South Africa's rule over Namibia (South West Africa) has caused widespread poverty and deprivation even though the territory is among the richest in Africa, a British charity said Monday.

Oxfam, a major Third World relief agency, said that Namibia's gross national product of \$1,259 per head in 1983 made it one of the wealthiest areas in the continent.

But only 22 per cent was left over for black people, who formed 94.5 per cent of the population, Oxfam said in a report which urged Britain and other European Community countries to press ahead with negotiations on independence for Namibia.

The rule of the territory by South Africa's white-controlled government was declared illegal by the United Nations in 1966.

"There is an urgent need to transform the structures which cause and perpetuate poverty for the majority," the report said. "But these structural changes can only begin after independence."

It added: "Namibia's people have been endlessly exploited in the interests of the prosperous colonial economy."

"The comprehensive nature of colonial social engineering has affected every important aspect of daily life for blacks."

The principal way in which South African authorities have controlled blacks is by dividing them into "ethnic groups" and forcing them off their land into labour reserves, the report said.

"When we lost our land, we lost our rights, our family way of life, our independence and our culture," was how a black woman farmer described her family's dispossession.

In northern Namibia, 99 per cent of black wage earners lived below a subsistence level calculated by independent experts, the report said.

It added that while the mortality rate for white infants was comparable to the world's most developed nations, a black baby was more than seven times more likely to die in infancy than a white one.

Mrs. Aquino sees no danger from Marcos

MANILA (AP) — President Corason Aquino said Monday she sees no immediate threat from ex-President Ferdinand Marcos or his backers and would rather get on to restoring the crippled Philippine economy than worry about him.

She also said that military concern for her safety has so far prevented her from mingling with the people who put her in power. Mrs. Aquino is scheduled to leave Friday for her first visit to the provinces since she took office in February.

Mrs. Aquino spoke lightly of assassination.

"If I hear a shot, that's all right because nothing has happened to me," she said. "If I don't hear it, it doesn't bother me either, because that's the end of me."

She also said she would rather focus on economic issues than on the ousted Marcos.

"What I much rather would announce is that tomorrow the jobs will be given jobs," Mrs. Aquino said in a 90-minute interview in her office. "That's more like what I would like to see happen than Marcos be punished."

She said "the mere fact that we have gotten Marcos out is already enough, for the time being. I would really much rather be constructive about the issue of Marcos and tell people Marcos did this to our country, and now it is time for us to rebuild. We can only do it if all of us are united."

Marcos, in refuge in Hawaii and rejected for exile by several countries, has continued to make political statements and has remained in contact by telephone with supporters in the Philippines.

"I don't think he can do it from long distance," said Mrs. Aquino. "Besides, his supporters are in the minority. His loyalists will never join any of these rallies for him unless they are paid."

About 3,000 Marcos loyalists shouted "No" when asked by one of their speakers whether they had been paid to come to a rally on Sunday.

Mrs. Aquino said she was "safe" until the opposition found

a new leader. "They have no central figure who could unite them. Right now, it is to the greater interest of the Filipino people that Marcos stay away," she said.

Mrs. Aquino said that until her husband, opposition leader Benigno Aquino, was assassinated in August, Filipinos looked to the United States to "come to our rescue," now, she said "we have a different people."

"It was only after Aug. 21 when people finally said it is up to us to make things happen. I am glad we finally did this on our own. All it needed was for us to give our best efforts."

Her husband's murder set in motion "the chain of events that led eventually to Marcos' fall."

Mrs. Aquino also said her country's need for U.S. economic assistance "does not mean it is dependent on the United States."

"It's not that we were asking for aid," she said. "It was them telling me they were going to assist us. From the time that we took over, American officials told me they admire us and want to help us."

"We have to do it on our own. We will do it. If people do admire us and help, we are not about to turn away offers of assistance. And that's not only from the United States, but Japan and the European countries."

Mrs. Aquino was scheduled this weekend to go to Cebu in the central Philippines and to Davao in Mindanao, the southernmost major island.

She said security considerations have kept her from making such trips previously.

"The military keeps impressing on me that even if I am not afraid, I should consider very carefully what will happen to this country if something happens to me," she said.

"I don't have a political party. So my real strength is really in the people, and I'm not about to give that up. When I'm out in crowds, and the people come close to shake hands with me, I can see the faces of my security men, they don't know what to do."

Remote-control bulldozer tackles Chernobyl debris

MOSCOW — A remote-controlled 19-tonne bulldozer has been brought in to clear debris close to the crippled Chernobyl nuclear power station where radiation is still too high for humans, Pravda said Monday.

The Soviet Communist Party daily said the tracked vehicle was being controlled from an armoured car 150 metres away.

Pravda reporter Oleg Gusev described how the bulldozer, flown in from the Urals industrial city of Chelyabinsk, tore up a strip of tarmac as it moved gradually closer to the centre of the damaged reactor.

"Because of the high level of radiation, work can only be carried out here using radio-controlled bulldozers," he said. A second vehicle was being equipped with radio controls.

The Soviet authorities say radiation levels are safe outside a 30-kilometre evacuated area and inside most of the zone as well.

Soviet reporters and television cameramen have been allowed to the stricken power station but kept at least 200 metres away from the reactor itself.

Pravda said that the delay in informing the Soviet people about the April 26 disaster, which sent radioactive spewing over Europe, had contributed to public fears about it.

It returned to the theme Monday in an article about the main television news programme Vremya (time), with a general complaint that viewers often heard about events late.

But Pravda also praised specifically the programme's coverage of the Chernobyl disaster, citing it as an example of how the effectiveness of television reporting had "somewhat improved."

"We are persuaded of that once again when we look at the daily reports from the Chernobyl nuclear power station and the events around it," the article said.

Reuter Foundation announces 6 new awards

LONDON (R) — Six journalists will benefit this year from awards made by the Reuter Foundation for them to study at universities.

The Reuter Foundation was established in 1982. Its aim is to help narrow the gap between developed and developing countries in the use of information technology and to provide research opportunities for talented journalists from developing countries.

Since the Reuter Fellowships were initiated in the 1983-84 academic year, 23 journalists from 22 countries have been awarded fellowships. Excluding the awards

granted this year, the countries from which journalists have been drawn are Benin, Brazil, Cameroon, Fiji, Ghana, India, Kenya, Kuwait, Liberia, Mali, Mexico, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

The Reuter Foundation established an additional fellowship at Oxford in 1984 in memory of Najmul Hassan, a Reuter correspondent from India who was killed on the Iran-Iraq war front in 1983.

Germans occupy Managua embassy in protest against rebel kidnapping

MANAGUA (R) — About 60 West Germans occupied their embassy in Nicaragua to protest at the kidnapping of eight of their compatriots by U.S.-backed rebels and demanded the ambassador take immediate action to secure their release.

"We have the embassy under our control, including the telephones and telex machines, and demand the ambassador do everything possible to secure the release of our companions," one of the demonstrators told reporters after Sunday night's takeover.

"We're going to stay here until they are free," added the protester, who identified himself only as Henry.

He also said the demonstrators wanted the Bonn government to condemn President Reagan's policy of supporting rebels fighting Nicaragua's left-wing government.

The protesters, mainly young volunteers working for the Sandinista government, scaled the walls of the embassy in the third occupation of the West German mission in the last few years.

Inside, journalists saw Ambassador Josef Ruskat seated at a table with a dozen of the protesters apparently discussing Sunday's kidnapping by rebels of eight West German volunteer construction workers.

Pastors, 44, was the first foreigner for 80 years found guilty of treason, a crime that can carry the death penalty.

She had denied the charge but admitted supporting the aims of the banned African National Congress (ANC), the main black nationalist group fighting white dominance in South Africa.

Judge T.J. Spoelstra said Monday of her support for the ANC: "This is conduct which no reasonable man nor court of law can countenance."

Her lawyer Denis Kuny asked for leave to appeal against the conviction, which was based on the premise that she owed allegiance to South Africa because she lived there.

He said Pastors, a linguist born in the Netherlands who has both Dutch and Belgian citizenship, could not owe allegiance to the country.

The judge said he would decide on the application later Monday. Spoelstra said on Friday: "As from the date she took up residence here, she owed allegiance to the republic and could commit treason against the republic."

Pastors denied that she was a member of the ANC but admitted carrying out reconnaissance work for it.

Spoelstra said the prosecution had not proved that she was an ANC member but he drew the "inescapable inference" that she belonged to the group.

He cleared Pastors of arms smuggling, with which the prosecution had tried to link her, saying it appeared to be "in the province" of her former husband and co-accused, Klaas de Jonge.

De Jonge, a Dutch citizen, had been due to stand trial jointly with Pastors but he escaped from police custody in July.

Belgian woman gets 10 years in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Belgian Helene Passtors, convicted of treason last Friday, was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment Monday by Johannesburg's supreme court.

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De Jonge, a Dutch citizen, had been due to stand trial jointly with Pastors but he escaped from police custody in July.

Monday's protest was the latest in several opposition gatherings in Taipei.

On Saturday, opposition politicians defied the government by setting up an office in Taipei which they said was a step towards a political party.

Hundreds of people packed into a hall for the opening ceremony at which opposition leaders called for more democracy, the lifting of martial law and the establishment of links with mainland China.

They said the Kuomintang should abandon its policy of no contact with the mainland and allow Taiwan people to visit relatives there.

The opposition, now grouped loosely under the name Tangwai — meaning "outside the Kuomintang" — has announced it will set up offices across the island to recruit members and form the basis of a future party.

The Kuomintang says it will allow the offices only if they register and do not use the name Tangwai.

In a series of resolutions, the meeting called for direct elections for president, governor of Taiwan, mayors of Taipei and Kaohsiung and parliament.

Central Americans divided over Contadora peace plan

PANAMA CITY (R) — Central American peace talks ground to a halt here with Nicaragua and its U.S.-backed neighbours divided over a formula for demilitarizing the war-torn region, officials said.

The talks were scheduled to resume on May 27.

The three-day meeting had been billed as a crucial session for the Central Americans to iron out long-standing differences over the four-nation Contadora Group's proposals for regional disarmament.

But apart from underscoring the contradictory interests and mutual distrust isolating Nicaragua from Central American

neighbours, the talks produced little more than an agreement to persevere in the effort to produce a peace pact for the region.

"They ended in a deadlock ... with four countries in absolute agreement and one which is absolutely in disagreement," Chief Honduran delegate to the talks Jorge Hernandez Alcerro told reporters.

Contadora Group — Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama — has been working for over three years to hammer out a peace treaty for the region. It has imposed a June 6 deadline for the signing of the pact.

4 killed in Punjab violence as chief minister shines shoes

NEW DELHI (R) — Suspected Sikh extremists killed four people on Monday in Punjab where the state's moderate Sikh chief minister shines shoes to atone for ordering a police raid on the Golden Temple, Sikhism's holiest shrine.

Police said gunmen shot dead a teacher and an attendant near the state capital Chandigarh in the second attack on a school since the April 30 raid on the sprawling temple complex in Amritsar.

Suspected extremists also killed two people in separate attacks in Amritsar and Faridkot districts

near the border with Pakistan, they said.

The police raid and extremist violence have shaken the moderate Sikh government of Chief Minister Surjit Singh Barnala who has faced unrelenting extremist violence since coming to power in September.

Mr. Barnala spent a second day cleaning the shoes of Sikhs visiting a temple near the historic Sikh shrine of Anandpur Sahib. All Sikhs must remove their shoes to enter a shrine.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OWAIN ELLIOTT © 1985 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

YOU CAN'T KEEP A GOOD WOMAN DOWN

North-South vulnerable. East deals NORTH
♦ Q J 10 5
♦ K Q 4
♦ A 3
♦ K 9 4

WEST EAST
♦ A 9 8 3 2 ♦ Void
♦ 2 ♦ 10 9 8 6
♦ 10 9 5 5 ♦ K J 8 7
♦ J 7 3 ♦ A Q 10 8 5

SOUTH
♦ K 7 6 4
♦ A J 7 5 3
♦ A Q 2
♦ 2

The bidding:
East South West North
1 ♦ 1 ♦ 1 NT
Pass 2 ♦ Pass 3 ♦
Pass 4 ♦ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠.

Women in bridge are becoming more militant. Recently they established a national organization to make sure that they get equal treatment in tournaments, and one is suing the ACSL for alleged discrimination against women in qualifying for international competition.

Fifty years ago a woman well known to both authors had no difficulty establishing her place in the world of bridge. The late Helen Sobel Smith simply beat the men at their own game. Here's an example of her skill.

North's free bid of one no trump

showed a reasonable hand. When he later raised hearts, Helen judged that she had the right cards and distribution to continue to game.

West got off to the excellent start of the jack of clubs — ace and another spade, although allowing East to ruff, would have facilitated declarer's task, and a low club would have ended play East at trick two. Declarer covered with the king. East won the ace and continued the queen. Without a moment's hesitation, Helen discarded a diamond from hand.

East realized that to continue with the ten of clubs would set up dummy's nine to low club return would have posed a major problem for Helen, so he shifted to a diamond. Declarer took the finesse, drew trumps and then conceded a trick to the ace of spades to make her contract.

Note that declarer would have been defeated had she ruffed the queen of clubs. Declarer cannot afford to draw all the trumps, and when West gets in with the ace of spades he simply leads another club to force declarer to lose control of the hand.

Why did Helen adopt this seemingly Kafkaesque line of play? When East did not return a spade at trick two, declarer decided that he was void in the suit and that, therefore, he quite likely had four hearts!

Handwritten signature: Charles Goren